# 



Thursday, March 3, 2016

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# FOREIGN NURSES EASE STAFF CRISIS

Report by Richard Guttridge

### DOZENS of shifts were understaffed at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital during the past 12 months.

A report to be discussed this week reveals the hospital was unable to meet recommended staffing levels on a number of shifts.

a number of shitts.

Nurses from the Philippines and India will be recruited to help boost staffing levels on wards as hospital bosses take the recruitment drive abroad from April to fill vacancies.

Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Russells Hall, insisted the staff shortages wild but processity impacts.

did 'not necessarily' have a negative impact on

patients.

Officials also said the shortages were generated as a special said the shortages as a special said the shortages were generated as a special said the shortages are special said the special said the shortages are special said the special said the shortages are special said t

Officials also said the shortages were generally spread evenly across the wards, according to a report by chief nurse Dawn Wardell.

The hospital has seen an improvement in the figures since August when 63 shifts were understaffed. During January, 20 shifts did not have the required numbers of staff to manage patients.

patients.

One 'red' shift was reported in January, which means there was a 'serious' staffing shortfall. On that occasion, staff had to be drafted to a trauma ward from elsewhere.

### Maternity

According to the hospital's targets, there should be one nurse to every 10 patients on general wards during the day. There is no specific target for night shifts.

cific target for night shifts.

The maternity unit is the most problematic area with around half of the understaffed shifts occurring in that department, a report to be seen by members of the board said.

Dudley Group chief executive Paula Clark said: "Patient safety is always our priority, and so when nurse staffing levels fall below the planned level, we have processes and measures in place to ensure our patients continue to receive safe, appropriate care.

"When a shortfall is identified, the situation is first reviewed by a senior nurse who will look

"When a shortfall is identified, the situation is first reviewed by a senior nurse who will look at the remaining number of registered nurses; the number of support workers and student nurses; the number of patients being cared for on that ward and how poorly those patients are and the level of support they require. "We will first try to fill a shortfall by utilising staff already on site at that time, this may be by moving staff between wards, pooling together teams from neighbouring wards, or asking staff not normally included in our nurse-to-patient ratios (such as matrons, specialist nurses and

not normally included in our nurse-to-patient ratios (such as matrons, specialist nurses and ward managers) to refocus their duties and work in the area where there is a clinical need.

"If arrangements cannot be made using the existing staff on site, we will then attempt to fill the shortfall from our own staff bank. If no back staff was well-ble, was will then pen low

bank staff are available, we will then employ agency staff to ensure patients receive safe, ap propriate care."

# **WAR VETERAN AND GRANDFATHER DIES, 94**



Duncan Christison, of Wollaston, when he received the Ushakov medal for serving on the Arctic convoys that kept Russia supplied

A SECOND World War veteran who served in A SECOND word war veteran wno served in the Arctic Convoys and was awarded a Rus-sian Ushakov medal has died at the age of 95. Duncan Christison, who lived in Wollaston, received the prestigious honour in 2014.

Originally from Sunderland, he died on

Originally from Sunderland, he died on February 14.

At the age of 16, he joined the Royal Navy at HMS Ganges, in Ipswich, going on to join HMS Birmingham before the war. He served in Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, the Antarctic, Russia and Nor-

He was due to finish and go home when the Second World War was declared. Mr Christison was relocated to the South Atlantic Fleet, one of the sailors who helped keep the Soviets supplied in their war against the Nazis, in a mission Winston Churchill described as 'the

mission Winston Churchill described as 'the worst journey in the world'.

He was married to Jess, who died six months short of their 70th wedding anniversary in February 2014. He was one of 18 veterans from across the Black Country to be awarded the Medal of Ushakov by Russian dimitaries in that year. dignitaries in that year.

He also received The Atlantic, Arctic, Africa, Italian, 1939 to 1945 star, the Malta George Cross 50th Anniversary Medal, Defence, War, long service and good conduct medals

medals.

He is survived by a son, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Grandson, Keith Wood, aged 43, said: "We should celebrate men like my grandfather and what he stood for, he lived an incredible life."

Mr Christison was a regular at Stourbridge Royal British Legion. His funeral is on March 11 at Stourbridge Crematorium at 1.30pm.

### **COURT**

## **Attempted murder** denied by partner

A 31-year-old Dudley man has denied attempting to murder his partner.
Courier Karl Hughes, aged 31, of George Close, Kates Hill, pleaded not guilty at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Thursday to attempting to murder Toni Bennett, aged 29, on November 21 last year.
He also denied being in possession of a bladed article. He was remanded in suspedy for a trial to set on May 16 at the

custody for a trial to start on May 16 at the

same court.

He was arrested after police were called by medics treating an injured woman in George Close.

### **POLICE**

# Shoppers conned by fake beggars

PROFESSIONAL beggars who are on full benefits have been attempting to dupe shoppers outside Tesco in Cradley Heath by getting them to hand over

rey rearn by getting them to hand over money.

Police have told the public not to give any cash to the con artists who have been posing as homeless and begging for donations outside the supermarket on Foxoak Street.

Officers revealed they had out a discontinuous control of the control of t

Officers revealed they had put a dispersal order in place to try to stop the gangs of beggars bothering shoppers.

### **INJURED**

# Taxi driver is found with fractured skull

A TAXI driver was taken to hospital suf-fering a fractured skull after an incident in Brierley Hill.

The man was found with serious head Ine man was found with serious head injuries in Bell Street South, near the junction with High Street, following an incident just before 9.30pm on Sunday.

Detective Inspector Colin Mattinson said: "An investigation has been launched after a man was found in Bell Street South, Bridgel Will with a carrier bend juing. The

after a man was round in Bell Street South Pierley Hill, with a serious head injury. The man, a 60-year-old taxi driver, suffered a fractured skull and is being treated in hos-pital. It is not yet clear how he came about his injuries." Call CID on 101.

# INSIDE





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### MARK ANDREWS LETTERS CLUBS THE FAST TICKET 17 **PROPERTY** 25 MOTORING 31 LOCAL SPECIALISTS 37 & 38

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# **Motorcyclist died after losing control**



A MOTORCYCLIST was killed after losing control of his bike and crashing into oncoming traffic, an inquest heard. Robert 'Claude' Christopher, aged 39, died on December 28 last year after 'dropping' his bike to avoid a vehicle turning left towards a shop.

Three vehicles were involved in the crash on Oldbury Road, Rowley Regis, when Mr Christopher came off his bike and crashed into a Land Rover.

PC Paul du Cors from the West Midlands Police collision investigation

Midlands Police collision investigation unit, confirmed that Mr Christopher, of Regis Heath Road, Rowley Regis, had

been travelling at 50mph, above the 30mph limit. He was on his way home to try to find a lost wallet.
Also travelling with him was his friend Hal Kirk, who noticed the vehi-

cle turning left and applied his brakes twice to signal to Mr Christopher that danger was ahead.

### Overtake

Mr Christopher had been moving to overtake the red Nissan Juke, driven by Brian Dale, who was signalling to turn towards the convenience store.

Dale took evasive action to avoid Mr Christopher who had 'lost control of

his bike'. Mr Christopher was pronounced dead at the scene.

A pathologist's report revealed he died of head injuries as a result of the

died of head injuries as a transcollision.

Describing Mr Christopher's death as a tragedy, coroner Mr Zafar Siddique recorded a verdict of death by way of a road traffic collision.

Mr Christopher's wife Julianne told the inquest: "Claude was always help-ing people. He was a family man."

# Notorious 'gang' pub closed after police plea

named as the most danger-ous in the West Midlands by a senior detective, will remain closed after having its

licence revoked.

The Earl of Dudley Arms, in Wellington Road, had become a 'stronghold' for a gang and was the scene of several violent attacks including a stabbing, a li-censing panel was told.

Detective Chief Inspector Chris

Detective Chief Inspector Chris Hanson said he knew of no other pub in the West Midlands which posed more of a risk to the public.
DCI Hanson said he believed someone would be murdered if the pub had been allowed to stay open.
It was shut down by police at the end of December after the latest violate includes a support of the public that the state of the state of the latest violate is read to be a support of the state of the latest violate is read to be support of the state of the latest violate is read to be support of the state of the latest violate is read to be support of the state of the latest violate is read to be support of the state of th

end of December after the latest violent incident proved to be the final straw for the authorities.

Officers have been called to the pub more than 60 times during the last two years to deal with a string of attacks. These included an attempted murder when a man was stabbed three times.

### Chaotic

One customer was slashed across One customer was slashed across the face leaving him with a 12cm gash and another was beaten with a pool cue, while a third narrowly avoided being run over on the car park following a dispute, Dudley Council's light of the company of the company of the car park following a despute, Dudley Council's licensing committing was told.
Police also said premises licence

holder Orville Hines had often hindered investigations of incidents by being unwilling or slow to provide CCTV and statements.

DCI Hanson said the pub had a 'chaotic and violent history' and

chaotic and violent instory and had developed such a strong association with the 'DSN gang', said to be linked to violent crime and the supply of class A drugs. He was clear that no steps other than the closure of the pub would suffice.

As a senior detective in West Midlands Police's violent crime unit, he said it was the first time he had



Staying closed - a police officer stands guard outside The Earl of Dudley Arms, in Wellington Road, after an incident

needed to become involved in a licensing matter, such was the seriousness of the situation at the Earl of Dudley

Arms.

He told the hearing: "I can think of no licensed premises within our force area which presents such a danger to the public than the Earl of Dudley.

"We have had a stabbing, a slashing, people beaten with pool cues,

threatened with weapons.
"It is my genuine belief if these premises remain open, managed by Mr Hines, someone will end up being murdered."

The licence was revoked by Dudley

The licence was revoked by Dudley Council's licensing committee at a meeting on last week.

Councillor Donella Russell, chairman of the licensing committee, said the risk of a death on the premises was one it was not prepared to take.

A 23-year-old man was left fighting for his life in May 2014 after being stabbed as violence flared outside the Earl of Dudley Arms.

Residents and councillors previously welcomed the closure of the pub

ously welcomed the closure of the pub

ollowing the outbreaks of violence.

Dudley's Councillor Khurshid

Ahmed at the time said: "It is quite Anmed at the time said: It is quite shocking people have been put at such risk and as a ward councillor, my main concern is the protection of their health and safety." their health and safety.

A nearby business owner, who did not wish to be named, said: "It's been a big problem for everyone in this area. It's a relief that this notice has been served."

When they initially called for clo-sure, police said the owners had failed

to protect customers by 'allowing members local gangs to frequent the

# **Tidy award** success for money-saving recycle plan

A RECYCLING scheme introduced fol-lowing the regeneration of Dudley Mar-ket has scooped an award. Dudley Council has been recognised at

and a divided the new scheme.

Both and a divided the service of t

tions introduced the new scheme. A cardboard recycling facility was introduced and waste food from the market is now donated to an animal sanctuary - reducing waste going into landfill by 60 per cent.

Council chiefs said this has saved the authority nearly £35,000 a year.

By reducing overall waste, fewer collections are needed at the site, saving around £27,000 a year.

Increasing the quality of the recycled cardboard generates an income of approximately £5,500 a year, while donating spoilt produce to the animal sanctuary saves the charity £5,000 a year in animal feed bills.

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet mem-

animal feed bills.

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, said:
"Congratulations to the street cleansing team for achieving this award and for working so closely with traders and the community to make this new and innovative recycling scheme such a massive success. It's also wonderful to see that food, once destined for landfill, is now feeding animals at a local sanctuary." feeding animals at a local sanctuary.

Dudley Council was one of 11 winners ose achievements were recognised

# **Jewellery thieves** targeting elderly

THIEVES are putting fake jewellery around the neck of elderly women as

Tricksters, believed to be from East-ern Europe, have struck in Dudley bor-ough. Victims as old as 90 have been

ern Europe, have struck in Dudley bor-ough. Victims as old as 90 have been targeted by the gang.

In one incident, on February 10, the 90-year-old woman was approached by two women and a man in a car asking for directions at Avondale Close, Kingswin-ford. The apparently thankful women got out of the car and placed fake gold chains around the victim's neck while they stole the genuine iswallery. An

chains around the victim's next whine they stole the genuine jewellery. An-other woman, aged 72, was targeted on Malt Mill Lane, Halesowen, and a 79-year-old on Prospect Road, Lower Gornal. Call police on 101 or Crimestop-pers anonymously on 0800 555111.

## **Expansion plans for** nursery submitted

A NURSERY in Netherton is hoping to expand after submitting plans to Dudley

A scheme has been submitted by Netherton Park Nursery School and Kindergarten, which, if approved, would be built next to its current location.

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# **Petition to** save school has hit the 1,700 mark

stop The Coseley School from closing has reached nearly 2,000 signatures.

Parents, staff and pupils are urging Dudley Council to rethink the proposals to shut the school, which has 557 pupils. They have protested outside council meetings and quizzed leaders.

The petition, created by Michaela Garbett, of Roseville, who has a daughter in Year 8, has now been signed by more than 1,700 people. On the web page created to promote the petition, she wrote about the processing the petition, she wrote about the processing the petition of the petition.

major impact closure would have on

major impact closure would nave on the lives of pupils and their families. But Dudley Council leader Pete Lowe, who says the school has been failing for a 'considerable time', in-sisted the decision on the school's fu-ture was by no means a 'done deal.'

ture was by no means a 'done deal.' Children's services boss Councillor Ian Cooper says talks are continuing. Around 120 parents, staff and pujls attended the meeting earlier last month at the Henne Drive school, which is operating at almost half its capacity. Last year's GCSE results placed the school at the bottom of the borough's league table. Parents say action should have been taken sooner. UKIP Councillor Star Anderton has been backing campaigners in their bid and says parents are demanding fur-

and says parents are demanding fur-ther talks with the council. She said: "Parents are seriously concerned that the whole public consultation is a sham and that the decision has al-ready been made." ready been made

Public consultation continues until

## **Appeal gets driver** extra week in jail

A MOTORIST who ran down a policeman has been handed an extra week behind bars for wasting the time of judges with a 'hopeless' appeal bid.

Geoffrey Dillion, aged 52, of Burnt Geoffrey Dillion, aged 52, of Burnt Tree, Tipton, was locked up for two-and-a-half years at Wolverhampton Crown Court on July 7 after being convicted of dangerous driving and driving while disqualified. He argued at the Appeal Court in London that the convictions were 'unsafe' and his sentence too tough.

But Lord Justice Gross – sitting with Mr Justice Dove – said there was 'no merit' in his complaints. He told him: "This was a hopeless application in every sense and an expensive and time-wasting exercise." Dillion was ordered to serve an extra seven days.

## £1,200 fraud is denied by man, 55

A MAN has denied a £1,200 fraud in the village of Iverley, near Stour-bridge. David Hughes, 55, of Hamble-ton Road, Halesowen, will appear at Stafford Crown Court on March 29 accused of a false representation.

# Disgraced inspector aims to clear name



Jaswant Singh - sacked for misconduct

a mission to clear his name after he was sacked for misconduct last year.

Jaswant Singh from Stourbridge was dismissed by a West Midlands Police disciplinary panel in November after he was found to have 'deliber-ately lied' to his chief inspector to try

and cover up an error.

The officer told colleagues to 'take their time' despite officers needing urgent help dealing with violent yobs at Olivio pizza shop in Stourbridge town centre in February 2014.

Mr Singh has now employed solic-

itor Kevin Hall to launch his bid to clear his name and is. The findings will then be put before the force's

Mr Hall said: "At approximately 2.20am on the morning of February 23, 2014, a disorder took place at Olivio Pizza, High Street, Stourbridge.

IND Fizza, High Street, Stourbridge As part of his appeal against dismissal witnesses are urgently sought." They are keen to locate a woman who was seen filming the incident on her phone and a door supervisor working at the takeaway. The panel concluded Mr Singh, who

professional standards relating to honesty and integrity and said his ac-tions 'fell short' of that expected of a

tions 'fell short' of that expected of a senior officer.

They also found he had lied about being at the scene. It was alleged in the hearing that he had gone to the wrong pizza shop. The former senior officer denied the allegations.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Kevin Hall, Excalibur Investigations Limited on 07957 177173, on behalf of Askew Solicitors, Coventry.

# **Motorist in court** over crash death

A 22-year-old Dudley man has appeared in court charged with causing death by dangerous driving.

Jordan Edwards, of Terry Street, was arrested last week in connection with the death of Gary Wroblewski. When the death of day whole san, after handing himself in to police. Mr Wroblewski, 53, was found by para-medics in the road in Netherton on November 6. He could not be saved.

Unemployed Edwards appeared be-fore Dudley Magistrates Court, where he was remanded in custody to appear before Wolverhampton Crown Court on March 22.

# Carers can link up with history group

CARERS in Dudley borough are invited to join a new monthly group to research family history.

The group will meet at the Dudley Archives and Local History Centre on the Tipton Road in Dudley and professional support and resources will be available. Activities will be available. ble at the centre for the person who is cared for while the carer takes part in the family history group

The first meeting is on Monday from 10.30am to 12.30pm. All sessions are free but must be booked. Call (01384) 818360 or (01384) 812770.

### Five walk routes to choose from

WALKERS are being urged to put their best foot forward and sign up for the 36th Dudley trail on May 1.

Walks of six, nine, 12, 20 and 28 miles are on offer with routes covering miles are on often with routes covering the industrial heritage of the borough. All walks start from Dudley Leisure Centre. Booking costs £3 per person for the 28 and 20 mile routes, £2.50 for the 12 and nine-mile and £1.50 for the six-mile route. An additional 50p will be charged for entries on the day See dudley.gov.uk/dudleytrail

### MP sees red over US gridiron club's name

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin is leading a move to stop a top American Football club playing at Wembley Sta-dium unless they change their name,

which he considers a 'racial slur'.

The Labour MP has hit out at plans by the NFL to send the Washington Redskins to play in London this autumn. They are due to play Cincinnati Bengals on October 30. Critics say the club's continued use of the Redskins name and logo promotes stereotyping of Native Americans.

### Old pictures of town

ARCHIVE photographs of old West Bromwich will be shown at the meet-ing of Sedgley Local History Society, on Thursday, March 10. Vice-chairman of Tipton Civic Society, Keith Hodgkins, will bring the pictures to the meeting at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street, Admission £1.

# Oar-some achievement as rowers cross Atlantic

completed one of the world's toughest challenges by rowing across the Atlan-

Biology teacher Lee Felton, 30, from Dudbriongy teacher Lee reiton, 30, from Dud-ley, crossed the finish line of the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge with his friend software engineer Sean Lannon, 31, from Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, finishing 19th overall in the reco

in the race.

The team, called Square One Atlantic, took on the arduous challenge to raise money for charities Sport for Freedom and Rape Crisis England and Wales.

It took the intrepid duo 65 days, 13 hours and 20

It took the intrepid duo bo days, 13 nours and 20 minutes, before crossing the finishing line last Wednesday (February 24).

Starting on December 14, they crossed the Atlantic Ocean from La Gomera in the Canary Islands, to the Caribbean island of Antigua, rowing more than 3 000 miles than 3,000 miles.

than 3,000 miles. Following their arrival at Antigua, Mr Felton wrote on his Facebook page: "We did it! Just got into bed on dry land after 65 days at sea. Will respond to the 350+ very kind messages over the next few days z z z – thank you for all the support."

### **Exhausted**

The team rowed in shifts of two hours on and two hours off, with the fleet of racers facing the first major tropical storm to form in a January since 1978

The exhausted crews suffered from sleep depri-

The exhausted crew's subtreat from steep deprivation, seasickness and excruciating body sores. Space on board the boat was extremely limited and there were no bathroom facilities. Both men slept in a space smaller than a single bed. Mr Lannon said: "It's good to be on dry solid land. Words can't describe it."

"It's just an unbelievable experience and you've

an unbelievable experience and you've got to row across an ocean to find out for yourself what it's like." what it's like."

Talisker spokesman Sarah Fleming said: "We're delighted for Square One Atlantic and their success in this formidable race. This year's Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge has certainly lived up to its name of the world's toughest row."

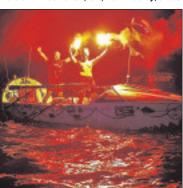
Its name of the world's tougnest row."

Square One Atlantic originally signed up to the race as a four, however, two of the rowers dropped out, making the challenge to reach the start line even greater for the determined pair of Sean and Lee.

Overcoming this obstacle, Mr Lannon and Mr Felton battled on, and have now hope to have raised £30,000 for their chosen charities.



We did it - Lee Felton, left, from Dudley, and Sean Lannon celebrate rowing the Atlantic Ocean





From here to flare - the duo arrive during the night Lee Felton, left, and Sean Lannon celebrate quayside









# THE BEST OF RHODES



JO Heywood, head of a very upmarket boarding school in Ascot, says children should be raised gender-neutral and "if a little girl wants to spend time in a fireman's outfit, then that is to be encouraged." Tut, tut, headteacher. Isn't she aware that there is no such thing as a fireman's outfit be. is no such thing as a fireman's outfit be-cause there is no such thing as a fireman? In these politically-correct times, they are

AS for encouraging females to get into fire fighters' outfits, many need absolutely no encouragement. Ask any male stripper.

THE revelation that Pope John Paul II had a long relationship with a married woman raises once again the troubled iswoman raises once again the troubled in sue of cellbacy in the Catholic Church. A Daily Telegraph reader says he knew of a village priest living in Ozechoslovakia in the 1920s who employed an attractive house-keeper who had a young son: "Everybody knew who the father was and they all lived happily exergiter." happily ever after."

I AM reminded of Dave Allen's tale of the handsome priest in an Irish village. All the locals called him Father except his own children who called him Uncle.

ONE of the delusions of our celebri-ONE of the delusions of our celebri-ty-obsessed age is that if someone plays an intelligent character on the TV, that ac-tor must be brilliant in real life. We hacks are more sceptical. When you interview celebs you find that, without a script, most celebs you find that, Without a script, most of them are quite ordinary. So let's not get too excited about a group of showbiz characters, led by Jude Law, descending on the Jungle refugee camp at Calais and off-



fering great insights into what must be done. We should not assume that the opinions of planurights of playwrights comedi-

ans count for more than those of

AN advert catches my eye. A big national charity which pays its chief executive £120,000 a year wants a manager for a small-town charity shop. The salary, for a 30-hour week, is £14,000 a year. My spies tell me such rates are the norm for charity-shop employees. It's surprising no-one has set up a charity for them.

I HAVE seen nothing in the EU debate this week to shift me from my original view that whether you want to stay in the EU or quit, the only sensible course of action is to vote to leave. First we vote, then we

DAVID Cameron urges us to "choose security, safety and certainty" and stay in the EU. Can anyone explain what level of security, safety and certainty you get in a club of 28 nations which, in the next few years, may be joined by Turkey, Serbia and Ukraine?

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Mon**day to Friday in your Express & Star

# Father-to-be warned after pub incident Jobs lost at

A 23-year-old man has avoided a spell behind bars after admitting affray. James Harley slapped a man in the face before throwing a chair at him and his friend on Christmas

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Harley had approached the man asking for the identity and location of another man in The Swan pub in Kingswinford.

According to prosecutor Mr Oliver Woolhouse, Harley then struck out at the man before throwing the chair. A disturbance followed in which an-other man received a cut to his head and had to go to hospital for treat-

Harley, of Hazel Road, Kingswin-ford, did not inflict the injury to the other man, and told police after his arrest that the man he slapped

became aggressive. He admitted affray and was given a nine-month jail term suspended for 18 months by Recorder Timothy Raggatt QC. Harley was ordered to pay £1,000 towards the costs of the prosecution and to complete 100 hours of unpaid work. Harley had admitted the offence breached an eight-month suspended prison sentence imposed for assault and theft, Recorder Ragatt warned

he would almost certainly be jailed if he came before the court again. He said: "Disorder of this kind in a public house is a serious matter and normally crosses the custody thresh-

normany crosses the custody thresh-old. You have a history of such irre-sponsible behaviour when in drink." Mr Mukhtar Ubhi, defending, said Harley and his partner was expecting their first child, adding: "He is now determined to turn his life around."

# boiler firm and security company AN HISTORIC Black Country boil-

AN HISTORIC Black Country boil-er company has gone into admin-istration, wiping out the jobs of its 38-strong workfore.

It comes just 18 months after Robey Boilers Supplies and Services was saved in a buyout by its own manage-

ment.

In 2014 bosses at the former Robey Wellman, now Robey Boilers Supplies and Services, put together a deal to buy the company, saving 52 jobs at the Newfield Road factory.

But last week administrators from Siministrators from Siministrators

the Newheld Road factory.

But last week administrators from Birmingham firm Smith Cooper were called in by directors as the company struggled amid a fresh crisis.

The reasons for the latest collapse are unclear, but Richard Tonks, of Smith Cooper, said the firm had been appointed as administrators and had immediately shut the business down, making all 38 employees redundant.

Documents filed at Companies House show the company had changed its name twice in August last year, most recently to Robey Boilers Supplies and Services. It designed, made and maintained boilers and furnace equipment. The company had been

and maintained boilers and furnace equipment. The company had been at the Oldbury site for more than 150 years, tracing its roots back to 1840 and iron boat and boilermaking firm of Danks of Netherton.

Meanwhile a Cradley Heath-based company, which supplies security and surveillance systems to more than 4,000 commercial sites, is planning to shed more than 50 jobs. Defence Security Systems at Sapoote Trading Security Systems at Sapcote Trading Estate, Powke Lane, employed 98.

## **13th birthday for** zoo lemur Frank

DUDLEY Zoo has been celebrating the 13th birthday of its much-loved the 13th birth Lemur, Frank.

He has been called one of the 'busiest fathers on site', living in Lemur Wood with his partner, Phoebe, and

Wood with his partner, Phoebe, and seven of his eight offspring.
Upper Primates senior keeper, Sophie Dugmore, said: "We'll treat Frank to a few raisins and bananas on his big day – as they're some of his favourite treats.
"He's enjoying life in Lemur Wood and has settled in really well with the rest of his brood."
As well as his offspring – Itzy, Bitzy, Icarus, Kinich, Nelly, Kelly and Spock and partner, Phoebe, Frank also shares the wood with the collard, black and black-and-white ruffed le-

black and black-and-white ruffed le

### **Murray leading Davis Cup defence in Brum**

ANDY Murray will be in the West Midlands to lead Great Britain's de-fence of the Davis Cup. Murray, who became a father for the first time earlier this month, will be at Birmingham's Barclaycard Arena with the British team from tomorrow (Friday).

# **Immigrant stole to pay** surgery bill for mother

By John Scott

**IMMIGRANT** turned to crime to pay for his mother's surgery in Albania has been put behind bars for two years. Fatmir Brozi had lawfully

lived in this country for 14 years and is married to a British cit-izen, Wolverhampton Crown

Izen, Wolverhampton Crown
Court heard.
During that time he had been
convicted of a single previous offence, an affray following a dispute
at work.
But last year the 32-year-old burled two homes in seven months

gled two homes in seven months, escaping with cash and jewellery worth more than £65,000, said Mr

worth more than £65,000, said Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting. Brozi forced a door and smashed a window to burgle the house of a 71-year-old woman with a disabled daughter in Birds Meadow, Pens-nett, on May 24, taking property worth £2,760.

### Bloodstain

He cut himself and left a bloodstain that was later used to match with his DNA

with his DNA.
Brozi was arrested and was on bail
when he broke into a second home
during a trip to Great Yarmouth in
December. He took £60,000 worth of
jewellery and £2,500 cash but damaged his knuckle and was identified

Jeweilery and £2,000 cash but damaged his knuckle and was identified through another bloodstain.

Mr Gurdeep Garcha, defending, observed: "He is far from a professional burglar, having left clues to his identity at both scenes. He turned to crime to get money for an operation for his mother who fell ill and needed surgery back in Albania. He had regularly sent money home since arriving in this country."

Brozi, from Addlington Way, Tividale, admitted both burglaries and was jailed for two years by Judge Katrina Montgomery QC. She told him: "You made off with a substantial amount of cash and jewellery some of which was irreplaceable."

She ordered the money found in its received when

She ordered the money found in his possession when arrested be returned to the victim in Norfolk since it came from that burglary.

# Ace revamp starts for tennis club



Work starts at club, from left, Adrian Hyde, Brian Lester, Mark Wild, Claire Colling, Caroline Trinham, Carl Stephenson, Maria Siviter, Luke Singh, Paul Parry, Lisa Colling, Debbie Glazzard

A £100.000 project to rebuild a Black Country tennis

A £100,000 project to record a Black Country tenins club has begun after vital funding was secured.

Work to rebuild Wall Heath Tennis Club in Kingswinford began last Monday after grants were awarded from Cory Environmental Trust in Britain (CETB), Ibstock Cory Environmental (ICET) and Dudley Community

Forum.

The project gained planning permission in March last year and got wide-scale community support. It will enable the club to further promote, develop and sustain tennis at all levels in the community.

Work is set to be completed in May. The project will see the clubhouse demolished and replaced with a new

one, complete with a changing facilities with disabled

access.
Claire Colling, Wall Heath Tennis Club secretary, said: "We are delighted that work has finally begun."
The club set a target of £100,000 for funding, and CETB offered half of this at £50,000. ICET granted the club £15,000 and Dudley Community Forum added £5 000

The club had already successfully raised £3,500 through its own fundraising activities, which will cover the cost of the building work.

The club will continue to fundraise to cover landscap-

ing costs and to buy new furniture

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we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated

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# fell foul of area ban on car cruising

A DRIVER who raced through the Black Country has been handed a suspended jail term after four councils DRIVER who raced through the united to launch a civil court action

united to launch a civil court action against car cruisers.
Reece Sheeran was given a suspended three-month sentence by a judge at a High Court hearing in Birmingham last week. Judge David Worster imposed the sentence after concluding that Sheeran, aged 24, had raced a vehicle 'at speed against another vehicle' in West Bromwich in breach of the court order.
Another judge had made the order just over a year earlier following an

just over a year earlier following an application by the four Black Counapplication by the four Black Coun-try local authorities – Wolverhamp-ton City Council, Dudley Council, Sandwell Council and Walsall Coun-cil. The order bars people from tak-ing part in a 'car cruise' in areas managed by the councils. Council bosses described the legal action as 'ground-breaking'.

bosses described the legal action as 'ground-breaking'.

Judge Worster said Sheeran had been racing in May on the A41 dual carriageway in the borough of Sandwell in breach of an order made in December 2014.

He consulted that Shown of December 2014.

He concluded that Sheeran, of Dog-He concluded that Sheeran, of Dog-pool Lane, Stirchley, Birmingham, was in contempt of court after he ad-mitted breaching the injunction. Sandwell Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said: "Car cruising —

warren cooper said: "Car cruising — the act of drivers meeting on the pub-lic highway on either an organised or impromptu basis to race or show off in their cars — is noisy, dangerous and illegal."

# **Tory and Labour** by-election wins

LABOUR and Conservatives each held a council seat after two by-elections in Dudley.

On an electoral turnout of 18 per cent in St James' ward, Labour's Cathryn Bayton was elected with 847 votes (46 per cent) to the seat left vacant following the death of Labour councillor Mary Roberts. UKIP's Graeme Lloyd polled 554 and Conservative Wayne Sullivan 427 votes.

The Conservatives held Kingswinford North and Wall Heath. Edward Lawrence polled 1,456 votes (54 per cent) to retain the seat left vacant by the resignation of Natalie Neale. Labour's Lynn Boleyn got 934 votes, UKIP's Mick Forsyth polled 262 and The Green Party's Andi Mohr 52 votes. Total turnout was 26 per cent.

### **Learn more about** adopting a child

BARNARDO'S has organised advice on fostering and adoption. As part of LGBT Fostering and Adoption Week, it has an event at its office in Great Cornbow, Halesowen, on Thursday, March 10. Call 0121 550 5271.

# Boy racer, 24 | Carer threatened dementia patient



Pauline Demaurie - ill-treatment

hope the people who end up in that

profession do it for the right reasons."

These are the words of a family of a dementia patient who suffered at the hands of a carer at a West Bromwich care home

Pauline Demaurie was found guilty of ill treating 87-year-old Edward Bridge at Lyndon Hall Care Home in West Bromwich after secret camera footage was passed to police by relatives. The camera had been hidden in Mr Bridge's room by his daughter, concerned about bruises on his body.

During sentencing, Judge Kristine Montgomery said care homes were Montgomery said care nomes were 'places of refuge and safety' where families should be able to feel loved ones were protected.

Footage showed Demaurie, aged 40, of California Road, Tividale, aiming blows towards Mr Edwards and the other works a risk his works.

reatening to pinch him.

Judge Montgomery said her actions

were 'grossly inappropriate'.

Mr Bridge suffered with Paget's

disease which meant he felt pain at the slightest touch. He was heard cry-ing out in pain on the footage.

riis grandson Steven Liolyd-warren said the family felt let down by what happened at the care home. He said: "You do have a trust in care homes. You don't want to worry, you just hope the people who end up in that profession do it for the right reasons and care."

Demaurie was ordered to complete

100 hours of unpaid work. Former steelworker Mr Bridge, who was originally from Northern Ireland but lived in Great Barr for most of his life, has since died. Mr Lloyd-Warren said the verdict was justice for him.

## **Hotel hosts chance** to be hit as a Miss

AUDITIONS for places in the final of the annual Miss Black Country com-petition will be held in Brierley Hill next weekend.

The Copthorne Hotel is the venue for the auditions on Sunday, March 13, from 1pm to 4pm.

Entries are open to 16 to 25-year-olds at www.missenglandwm.com/en ter-miss.html

The winner of Miss Black Country will go through to the Miss England competition. Last year's Miss Black Country was Jade Secker from Wom-

# Shoppers' £345 for cancer charity

A MORE than token gesture by shoppers in a Stourbridge store has led to a £345 cheque going to a cancer charity. Staff from Waitrose in The Ryemarket presented the cheque to White House Cancer support manager Caroline Webb at the charity's Dudley HQ. The funds were raised by a cross-country in-store scheme whereby shoppers vote for charitable organisations, chosen by the public, by placing tokens in a Community Matters box. The more tokens per cause, the greater the donation made by Waitrose.

## Macmillan advice bus to visit town

MACMILLAN Cancer Support's information bus is coming to Stourbridge ahead of Prostate Cancer Awareness month.

In the UK 119 men are diagnosed

In the UK 119 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer every day. Moray Hayman, of Macmillan, said: "We are encouraging anyone with questions to come and see us, whether it's about prostate or any other type of cancer.

The bus will stop off in Stourbridge that "Thwaday" of Scarcer.

today (Thursday) at Crown Square from10am until 4pm.

### More jobs as software firm expands globally

MORE than 30 jobs will be created as a Black Country software firm doubles in size following a £700,000 investment. Oldbury company Chrysalis, which creates software to help companion with a software to the softwar which creates software to help compa-nies retain customers, is to roll out its services across the world. Chrysalis, based in Swallowfield Courtyard, cur-rently employs 20 staff. Managing di-rector Jolyon Barker said: "With this new investment from Finance Birmingham, we will be able to continue to expand our business.

### Choir joined by guests

THE Band of the Royal Corps of Signals will be guests of Kingswin-ford's Gentlemen Songsters Male Voice Choir at Dudley Town Hall on March 19 at 7.30pm. Tickets on 01746 765850. The choir also be perform at Holy Trinity Church, Wordsley, on Saturday at 7.30pm.

# More money being spent on towpaths network

## towpaths along Dudley's canals has been given a £460,000 boost. The extra cash is part of a wider £1.7

million revamp bidding to get more peo ple to explore the borough on foot and by

Public transport co-ordinator Centro awarded Dudley Council an additional £460,000 as part of their Managing Short Trips project. It will enable the restoration of towpaths surrounding the Buckpool Nature Reserve and

The Dell Stadium in Pensnett.

Waterside walkways will be restored during a programme of works aiming to get people more active.

Three canal routes in Dudley were originally earmarked for improvement – with work getting under way on a series of towpaths around Stourbridge last year

Cycling links will also be created between Brierley Hill and Pensnett and Stourbridge and Kingswinford as part of the project. Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, said the extra money would now enable more towpaths to be restored. stored.

### **Encouraging**

She said: "The Managing Short Trips project is all about getting people out of cars and on bikes and walking to work instead of driving. "Centro bid for the money and then local au-

thorities decide on what they would like to do.

"So far the money we have received has gone towards our first project of revamping tow-paths in Stourbridge by the Bonded Warehouse area and Kinver Street basin.

"Now we will concentrate on our second project being around the Pensnett area, which will see canal towpaths fully restored."

Councillor Bills added that since the work

done so far there had been 'encouraging sta-tistics' about an increase in people using the paths.

"The work has really livened up the build-ings all along the canal side too. It is lovely to see people out and about and stopping at a cafe

or shop at the end of the paths.

"We have other ideas to start work on a possible third project on towpaths around Halesowen as well – that is something we may be concentrating on in the future," she said.

# Bishop tours emergency services



Bishop of Dudley, the Rt Rev Graham Usher, chatted with firefighters during his emergency services tour

Bishop of Dudley, the Rt Rev Graham Usher, chatted with firefighters during his emergency services tour the incredible work of the emergency services to find out more about the work they do.

Rt Rev Graham Usher started his visits at Dudley Fire Station, before heading to Brierley Hill Police Station and then Dudley Ambulance Hub.

He said: "I was delighted to be able to spend a whole day visiting the fire, police and ambulance services in Dudley and to experience."

The Bishop of Dudley work of the emergency services across our borough. "It was good to meet staff and to hear more about the challenges are often around budget cuts and the misuse of these precious services by the public."

The Bishop chatted with firefighters during his emergency services tour in the incredible work of the emergency services across our borough. "It was good to meet staff and to hear more about the challenges are often around budget cuts and the misuse of these precious services by the public."

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The Bishop chatted work of the emergency services across our borough. The staff and the hear more about the challenges are often around budget cuts and the misuse of these precious services by the public."

The Bishop chatted to firefighted to be able to spend a whole day visiting the total provide and p



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# IN MY VIEW

# £100k and you can land one on me, Jezza

FORMER Top Gear producer Oisin Tymon has just been awarded £100,000 in com-

FOHMEH lop Gear producer Oisin lymon has just been awarded £100,000 in compensation for the rumpus where he took one for the team after Jeremy Clarkson was denied his steak dinner.

Now, of course, former Chronicle motoring writer Clarkson's actions were totally unacceptable, and Mr Tymon has quite rightly been kept on by the BBC.

Even so, it's quite a tidy little windfall, particularly given that Mr Tymon has suffered no financial hardship as a result of the incident.

To put it into context, when I took a pasting off two drunken louts while going about my business in Stourbridge 11 years ago this week, I got £1,800 in compensation for two broken ribs and a scar.

The moral is, I suppose, if you are going to get a hiding, best make sure it is at the hands of someone famous. And Jezza, please feel free to deck me one if you are passing.

LAST week it was reported that the world was finally catching up with me, with cassette tapes making a long overdue comeback.

Now it emerges that another of my great loves is being adopted by the London hipster crowd. As a former judge of the Banks's Pork Idol competition (check the Banks's Pork Idol competition (check it out, it's true), I used to think KVE Golden Roast scratching were the height of Black Country sophistication. But my tastes have broadened. These days I'm quite partial to The Snaffling Pig Co's gourmet range sprinkled with cracked black pepper, or its sea salt and balsamic vinegar line.

Anyway, sales of pork scratchings are up nearly 11 per cent on last year, with the likes of Fortnum & Mason and Harrods immping aboard the pict-wagos limping aboard the pict-wagos.

rods jumping aboard the pig-wagon.

Just goes to show: Some people are dedicated followers of fashion. Others just lead.

NEVER understood the appeal of the Oscars. Or the Baftas, the Brits, or the Grammys for that matter.

If you like a film, you like it. You don't

ned some silver-haired critic on the other side of the Atlantic to validate your choice. And it's the same with music. If you're a lifelong fan of Showaddy, wat's fine. You don't listen to Adele because she's got an armful of tiny record

So who thought it would make it more interesting for this year's Oscar winners to drone on about politics?

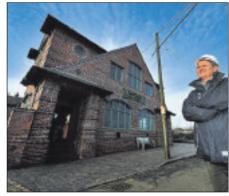
Look, Lenny Capri, or whatever you cal yourself, your job is to memorise the lines that someone else has written, not to bore the pants off us about global warming. It's the equivalent of the washing machine repair man offering tips about the Tokyo stock market. Stick to what you're good at.



Potty about history - Selwyn working on one of the projects



Selwyn Owens with museum chief executive Ian Walden in 2006



# Selwyn helped rebuild **Black Country history**

**RICHARD GUTTRIDGE** meets Selwyn Owens, who helped create the authentic look of the Black Country Living Museum

IT is one of the region's most iconic attractions which visitors come from around the world to see. But if it wasn't for Selwyn Owens, the Black Country Living Museum

would not be what it is today.
Selywn has retired after almost 30 years and while he is leaving the museum the mark he has left on it will last for generations.

Many of the famous buildings which line the museum's streets were reconstructed by Selwyn. As construction manager, he was responsible for making sure they were built without

a hitch.

Selwyn joined what was still a fledgling museum in 1987, intrigued by the possibility of transforming the site into one of the region's greatest attractions.

He had previously worked for local authorities in Wolverhampton and Birmingham but decided the time was right for a new shellows.

decided the time was right for a new challenge. And it was a decision he didn't regret.

### Mastermind

The construction boss would go on to mastermind many of the museum's most famous construction jobs, including the entire 1930s-style Birmingham Road – one of the museum's two main streets. He also led the reconstruction of Cradley Heath's Worker's Institute, the Victorian St James' School, which was originally in Salon Street the Lime. which was originally in Salop Street, the Lime-light cinema from Brierley Hill and the tradi-

light chemia from Breney That all the said: "The 30 years have absolutely flown past. I have been so busy so involved in these projects that I haven't had time to stop or stand still at all.

Seeing a project through from start to finish could be an exhausting challenge.

Of the majority of the buildings Selwyn, who



Black Country Museum Living Museum construction manager Selwyn Owens is retiring

is now 65, said: "I would draw them up, how they are going to look. It's a team game, it's not all down to me but my work involves the technical drawings, surveys, procurement of materials and the quality control of the build-

ing going up."

There is one building in particular that will

always have a special place in his heart be-cause of the peculiar way that it came to exist. An American man had come to the Black Country to trace his family history and had learned his ancestors had once ran a sweet shop in Dudley called Cookes. He then ap-

proached the museum to see if they could rec-

Selwyn said: "We painstakingly replicated that shop from a suitable building after the

curators at the time gave me a photograph.

"I remember in the front of that photo there was a man, his wife and a little girl. We managed to track her (the little girl) down and by then she was in her 80s and in a wheelchair. She broke down in tears and said 'it's exactly how I remember it'. I broke down in tears That's the kind of job it is."

The museum's sweet shop building is based

on what was then a hardressers in Ondury. There are some buildings, including the mine entrance, which Selwyn has had to dream up himself based on research.

"You really have to sit down and think about the design, the materials, the position on the site and the relationship with other

buildings," he said.

The job has thrown up many challenges over the years but there is one in particular that

stands out. He said: "We had problems with the Work er's Institute. We had put it out to an outside contractor to do it but it went into liquidation leaving us in a right mess. "We managed to finish it and it was im-

mensely satisfying to be able to pick it up when it had already started and finish it."

Because of the experience, the Worker's Institute remains among the projects he is most proud of.

### Fruition

Although the Rolf Street Baths took 10 years to come to fruition, it was generally 12 to 18 months from when a building was first sketched by Selwyn to when it was completed at the museum.

He said: "The ways of doing things are a bit strange. It took me probably 18 months to change thought process. Having worked in

local government and for a contractor it was all about doing the job as quickly as possible and making a profit. The change at the mu-seum was that it was all about quality and authenticity. That was the main criteria

Selwyn said he was proud to see how the museum had grown over the last three decades, particularly as he is a born and bred Dudley man.

Dudley man.

"It's extremely satisfying. Every time I go back down there I get a real buzz from seeing all the buildings. People come from all over the world and it's great to see.

"I am immensely proud of what I have helped to achieve as part of a team forming

the museum. It has been a labour of love but

after 30 years it is time for a rest."
Although retired, Selwyn has already been coaxed into going back to the museum on a part-time basis to help with the next project.



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There is one small job that you have



# Added worry of the parking meter ticking LAST year I wrote of the closure of the chest infection. He was not taken to very good service by the medical staff.

would I drive them to the wark-in centre at Russells Hall Hospital if needed. An hour and a half later, emergency 111 rang back saying take him to the

walk-in.

An hour and a half later they saw him. I then left as they decided to take him to a ward with a suspected

LAST year I wrote of the closure of the chest infection. He was not taken to very good service by the medical staff. Holly Hall medical call-in centre closaling and moving to Russells Hall Hosping Warndson was discharged Wednesday night with medication. There was better and faster service at the original walk-in centre, up to hospital admittance. The surroundings was running a very high temperature, and russell Hosping Warndson was discharged Wednesday night with medication. There was better and faster service at the original walk-in centre, up to hospital admittance. The surroundings was free to park. For every one and a hard transfer was nothing to the parents.

wrong.

On Tuesday I returned him with his mother to the same hospital. He was taken to the examination ward and again they said they could find nothing wrong, but decided to keep him 48 hours. Once he was admitted he had

nospital admittance. The surroundings were not so daunting for a child and it was free to park. For every one and a half hours I parked it cost £5. I am the first to say money doesn't matter were health and life is concerned, but the worry of the meter ticking increases the process.

the pressure.

N CADDICK

Dudley

# Doubtful over open air theatre

WHILST I am in favour of the improvements to Dudley town centre, I cannot un-derstand the site approved for the outdoor theatre.

Unless there are going to be massive speakers installed, it will be impossible to hear any performances, as it is very close to the road and traffic noise will be a

As Stone Street Square is under-used, it would have been better situated there. The weather will also be a

factor in its success.

The site looks good but the practicality is a bit du-

Only time will tell.

The council seems ob-sessed with creating open spaces while the plan for the Hippodrome site is becom-

rippodrome site is becoming a joke.

Save the Hippodrome – it could be used for all types of entertainment, seven days a week, regardless of the weather, and for the benefit

P WINCHURCH Dudley

# **LETTERS** TO THE EDITOR

### **POST**

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street olverhampton, WV1 1ES

dudley.chrons@

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

# Come on Dave, why not cut the spin?

NO sooner has the starting gun fired, then the usual letter appears sponsored by the David Cameron spin doctors, ie the Tory donors, promising the apocalypse if we leave the European Union.

Then Dave claims our security is at risk if we leave. Hang

Then Dave claims our security is at risk if we leave. Hang on Dave, you put our security at risk along with Osborne by all your cuts to the armed forces, the police, etc.

To prove it just walk around any neighbourhood and count how many bobbies you see on the beat, but don't count the cardboard cut outs we see in shop doorways. If we leave the EU, the country will not sink, there will be no famine. More than half the world are not in the EU, and they prosper a lot better than we do.

Alternatively vote for Dave, the man who stood drinking beer with the Chinese leaders, whilst watching our steel industry sink. He promised to cut immigration to under 100,000. I bet Dave has not told you it will be in the millions if we don't leave now. lions if we don't leave now.

Oh and by the way Dave, don't forget to wear your hi-vis est, or do your rolled up sleeves routine, pretending to be normal working person.

CLLOYD

# Tune to halt all of this electrickery

FRENCH-OWNED electricity producer Engie has qui-etly announced closure of another power station. This time it's Rugeley. Why? Well its coal-fired and our

Well its coal-fired and our Government wants all of them closed or wood burning by 2025! Or could it be that they hope/expect to get better rates of payment come autumn for power coming from gas-fired plants? Could it be that with a fur worsening deficit of supports. plants? Could it be that with our worsening deficit of sup-ply compared to potential demand they expect to get higher rates for 'electrick-ery'? Could we be about to be 'persuaded' to pay them more to supply us with a basic need? Although wholesale prices for electricity have plum-

Although wholesale prices for electricity have plummeted (like gas and oil) no savings have been passed on to consumers. Let's have MPs do something about this, before we have people dying because they are unable to keep the power

M GOUGH

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# in for Royal Navy talk

Ladies Social Circle

THE Kingswinford La-dies Social Circle met at The Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion on February 4 for the first meeting of 2016.
Chairman Sheila Evans reported on three ladies who had had joint replacements, but said that treasurer Audrey Phipps – a founder member when it was The Women's Electrical Association – is extremely poorly. A letter was read out from Jean Hadley thanking the ladies for the lovely blankets presented to her for the

ladies for the lovely blankets presented to her for the Fistular Hospital at Addis Ababa. Another letter was read out from the chairman of The Royal British Legion thanking the club for its donation following a burglary. The speaker Mark Newbold how he was bored with maths and physics at school so in 1978 joined the Navy. He trained as a diver and got a job on the Royal Yacht Britannia. As a member of the crew football team they played Saudi Arabia.

The crew captain gave

The crew captain gave the traditional pennant but received nothing in return. However after the match the defeated crew team each received a solid gold Rolex wetch.

received a solid gold Rolex watch.

With five months to go he decided to end his naval career sailing round the Mediterranean on HMS Coventry. However, it was deployed to the Falklands and was hit during the conflict, 19 men lost their lives and Mark was injured.

He survived and returned to England to marry.

to England to marry. He divides his fee between

three charities, one being Holidays For Heroes.

# Mark dives Craft group raises cancer cash



Sedgley Evening TG's craft group presented Dudley Cancer Research shop manager Reah Robinson with a cheque for £500 from funds made on their open day

# Gwen's celebrating 50 years of service

THE February meeting was well attended and chairman Jean Latham welcomed two visitors, namely Pat Price and Maureen Mansell to join the members.

join the members.

She proceeded by reading the list of apologies, and then presented Gwen Hill with a certificate for 50 years service, while expressing everyone's wishes that Gwen had fully recovered from recent illness.

The scarcetary read the

The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting which were duly signed and passed and the treasurer asserted that the finances were in a healthy

Federation representative

Wollaston E TWG

Hazel Needham then gave a précised account of the last meeting.

The subsection reports followed and March 9 is the date for the next 'amble', while payment of £8 is needed by March 8 for the skittles evening.

Speaker for the evening, Rosemary Prosser, gave a very interesting and amusing account of her life in the police force.

She finished with a warning of the diseases which bites from ticks can cause, such as Lyme disease. These ticks can be found in wood-

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lands, moorlands, parks and even gardens throughout the UK.

Rosemary could not emphasise enough, the misery that these small arachnids

that these sman arguments may cause.

Raffle prizes went to Hazel Butt and Marueen Mansell, while the competition winner was Carol Longmore, with Megan Baxter

The next meeting incorporates the Annual General Meeting. It will be held at 7.30pm on March 8.

There will be no competition on this occasion

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# **Drink-drive crusade cop** is sacked after road ban

Police officer from Sedg-ley, who once helped lead force's crackdown on drink-driving, has been sacked - after being convicted of the offence himself.

Pc Chris Blount, of Rowan Road, was stopped on November 6 at 2.30am on the Black Country Route after patrolling officers

try Koute after patroning onteers spotted him 'struggling to control' his Vauxhall Mokka.

Pc Blount, who was a member of the collision investigation unit, was seen standing by the car apparently looking at damage. The officers looked back moments later and saw the car travelling slowly travelling slowly

### Slurred

After seeing the driver was struggling to control the car, the officers pulled Pc Blount over, recognising him as a colleague. His speech was slurred and he was unsteady on his fleet – and officers could also smell alcohol.

In January, he admitted one count of drink-driving. He is said to have given a reading of 101mg per 100ml in a breathalyser – nearly three times the limit of 30mg per 100ml of breath.

City magistrates fined him £1,425 and disqualified him from driving for two years for the offence.

two years for the offence.

we years for the offence.
West Midlands Police spokeswoman
Gina Lycett said: "Following a misconduct hearing held on February 24, Pc
Chris Blount was dismissed from the
force for discreditable conduct without
potice."

notice."
Pc Blount was regularly the face of the police crackdown on drink-driv-ers in the West Midlands over recent

years.

In the 2006 festive period, he said:
"Our message is drink drive today –
get banned tomorrow."



Pc Chris Blount was pulled over by officers and found be over the limit

# **Homes move for office block**

A LANDMARK office block in Dudley town centre which has been empty for years will be given a new lease of life under plans to convert it into homes.

Falcon House, in The Minories, in the town centre has been left abandoned since be. who opted to occupy a different site. But fresh plans have

now emerged to convert the 1960s of-fice block into accommodation. Flats will be created at the building but further details surrounding the proposals have vet to be revealed.

Initial plans requesting a change of use have been lodged with Dudley Council. Falcon House overlooks public car

parks off Flood Street. Its prominent town centre location would likely make it a sought-after address. The site had previously been ear-

marked for a huge £50 million regeneration plan featuring a supermarket, restaurants, shops and houses, but developers eventually chose Cavendish House as their preferred option.

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# **Expansion pays** off as sales soar

DW Windows Ltd nas gone ....... strength to strength over the last 12 months since renovating its new premises in Meadow Lane, Coseley, creating one of the largest showrooms in the Midlands and generating 14 new jobs for local people.

The company's turnover has increased by 30 per cent and is well on target to double in the next couple of years.

### **Proud**

The new state-of-the-art showroom and head office has plenty of space to allow future expansion into new areas and of course enables DW Windows Ltd to showcase many of its market leading products.

The showroom has eight conservatories and orangeries, a couple of porches and dozens of windows and doors on display, allowing customers to see, touch and feel before they invest their hardearned money.

Company director Dave Walters states: "It's been the best business decision I have ever made, opening the new place.

"The response from everyone who visits is overwhelming as the design, planning and creation of Meadow Lane is all my own doing and it really makes me proud when people congratulate me on what I have achieved. The increase in business speaks for itself.

"I am not a businessman, I am a window fitter by trade, from Bilston and have succeeded by doing the best job I can and being as honest and reliable as I can be," Dave adds.

staff. I have a great team around me now and I couldn't do this without them. All I ask of my fitters is to do the job better than if they were doing it in their own home and this pays off as six out of 10 of the new jobs we do are for repeat customers or recommendations.'



DW Windows Ltd - Brand New 7600 square feet showroom over two floors

### Success

Steve Bull, former England and Wolves legend, opened the new showroom in July last year which was a massive success and since then the phone just hasn't stopped ringing.

They are doing 40-50 quotations per week and since the open day have completed almost 500 new installations ranging from orangeries to single windows or doors. January has been the best on record with a 50 per cent increase in business on January 2015.

DW Windows Ltd are now nearing the end of their first 10 years of trading and are looking forward to the next 10 years.

# Call for more help to restore church



Deb Brownlee and Keith Jeffries of St John's Church Preservation Group at the landmark Victorian church in Kates Hill

CAMPAIGNERS working to reopen a landmark Dudley church for community use have made a fresh appeal for

St John's Church Preservation Group plans to reopen the listed Vic-torian building in Kates Hill, which has been empty for 14 years, for com-munity use and for worship.

For the past year, the preservation group had been in talks with the Diocese of Worcester and the Church Commissioners to lease the building so they could begin restoration work. The arrangements were finalised last month.

The group is raising funds from its own Dudley Market stall on Satur-days, and it also has two sale rooms, in Highview Street, Kates Hill, and at The Old School House, St John's Road.

It is appealing for more helpers to come forward as the group plans to step up its fundraising efforts so it can begin repair work on the historic town centre building as soon as possible.

### Pledge

"We will be asking people to 'Take The Pledge' – pledge two hours a month of their time to help the pro-ject," said Deb Brownlee, chairman of

St John's Church Preservation Group "The project has always been volun-teer run and we intend to keep it that way if possible."

The church shut in 2002 due to safety concerns but recent surveys have shown the nave and chancel at the church, which opened in 1840, are structurally sound.

The group hope to develop it as a community hub, a tourist centre with local history display area and cafe, and also to return it to Christian worship.

To help the group email savestjohn schurch@hotmail.co.uk or call 0787 119 5042.

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he campaign pays for simple Wills. If your Will is complex, you can pay the solicitor for extra advice. There is no obligation to include a gift to any of the charities. The campaign is intended for those aged 55 and over.



Hazel's farewell at Compton Hospice Dudley Shop (from left) Jackie Haynes, Mereille Bills, Hazel Dunn and Isobel Nock

COMPTON Hospice volunteer Hazel Dunn has decided it's time to retire – at the age of 88!

Hazel, who has been part of the Dudley team since the New Street shop opened in 1988, said: "I've loved being involved and really enjoyed watching the charity grow over the years.

"When I first started I volunteered three days a week but gradually cut back to just one morning when I dressed the window.

"I've seen so many fashions come and go in all that time and it used to share with the staff."

make me laugh when the minute I'd finished dressing the window.

Managers, fellow volunteers and customers marked Hazel's farewell after 28 years' service by presenting flowers and gifts – including a packet of the favourite pork scratchings!

Hazel, of Brierley Hill, said: "I was really touched with all the beautibacted with all



A window display at the shop in 1988



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18th-20th	YORK & CASTLE HOWARD	£139.50	12th	HOU	SES	OF I	PARLI	AMENT	£4	41.00	£40.00
19th-20th	SETTLE/CARLISLE RAILWAY	£119.50	15th	STR	ATFO	DRD	RIVEF	CRUIS	SE £	29.50	£28.00
21st-25th	FLORAL HARROGATE	£299.50	22n	d WEL	SH :	STE	AM RA	VILWAY	£	42.50	£41.00
APRIL								LONDO			£26.00
7th-8th	DOWNTON ABBEY	£139.50	31st	SHO	PPI	NG IN	I LON	DON	£	27.00	£26.00
8th-11th	DUTCH BULBFIELDS	£369,50	AP	RIL							
11th-15th	ISLE OF WIGHT - SHANKLIN	£275,00	1st	MYST	ERY	' τοι	JR & I	UNCH	£	36.00	£35.00
11th-15th	BOURNEMOUTH	£269.50	2nd	TOW	ER B	RID	GE LO	NDON	£	37.00	£36.00
15th-17th	NATIONAL STUD TOUR	£219.50	2nd	LONE	ON	SIGH	HTSEE	ING	£	27.00	£26.00
18th-22nd	GLORIOUS ST IVES	£279.50	4th	BONE	IN C	MOT	ION, L	ONDO	N £	42.50	£37.50
	WEYMOUTH	£279.50	4th	COVE	ENT (	GAR	DEN L	ONDO	N £	27.00	£26.00
23rd-24th	TOWER OF LONDON W'END	£145.00	5th	WWT	SLI	<b>MBR</b>	IDGE	CENTR	E £	35.00	£32.50
25th-29th	NORTH DEVON DELIGHTS	£269.50	6th	HIST	ORY	MUS	SEUM	LONDO	N £	27.00	£26.00
25th-29th	ELEGANT EASTBOURNE	£255.00					PARK		_	39.50	£38.00
MAY								SHOW	£	35.00	£34.00
2nd-3rd	DOWNTON ABBEY	£139.50	17th	DR V	۷НО	EXP	ERIE	ICE	£	39.50	£38.00
4th-8th	ILFRACOMBE	£265.00						NDOU		25.00	£24.00
7th-15th	ANDORRA & PYRENEES	£695.00	19th	MEL	ΓOΝ	MOV	<b>NBRA</b>	Y	£	26.00	£25.00
9th-13th	WARNER CORTON RESORT	£329.50					ARDE			31.00	£29.50
12th-17th	LLANDUNDO	£379.50						AILWAY		37.50	£35.00
13th-15th	<b>HAWORTH 1940's WEEKEND</b>	£165.00	29th	CHA	RLE	COT	E HOL	JSE (NT	r) £:	35.00	£35.00
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4 to 7.
Walsall-born musician Goldie will also be performing with the band The Heritage Orchestra. Wilderness will also see US group The Flaming Lips performing their album The Soft Bulletin in full.

Plant, who will be 68 this year, and his band are on tour in the United States next month and the festival performance will be

the only UK show this year.

He said: "The Space Shifters and I have found a natural home for our music in beautiful places that often carry their own unique resonance, I know the Wilderness Festival is one of those places."

veal.

Local authorities across the whole of the UK committed at least £277 million to the installation, maintenance and also monitoring of the systems between 2012 and 2015, research by campaign group Big Brother Watch found.

The report also reveals during that period local authorities have reduced the number of cameras by 12.5 per cent and reduced spending on CCTV by 46.6 per cent. Between 2012 and 2015, Wolverhampton council spent a total of £291,600 operating 131

cameras compared to over £1.0m on £77 non. 2007 and 2011. In Dudley, 52 CCTV cameras cost the council £510,000 - this figure went down from £848,455 being spent on 127 cam-

down from £848,455 being spent on 127 cameras.

Walsall forked out £1.4m on just 90, which went down around £480,000 and 40 cameras.

Birmingham City Council was previously the highest spender in terms of CCTV but has now cut back by 60 per cent to £5,598,168 since 2012, when it spent £14.2m.

A previous study found that between 2007 and 2011, town halls spent a total of £515m — which is the equivalent of £128m a year — and controlled at least 51,600 CCTV cameras.

Last year there were warnings that police could find it more difficult to detect crime if

Samson said: "Whilst the findings of this report appear encouraging, the reduction in spending may be nothing more than a lull before the storm of more intrusive, biometric or 3D cameras appearing on our streets.

"A measured approach should be taken with any surveillance system. Privacy should always be given as much weight as security."

The report was based on freedom of information requests sent to authorities. There was a 96 per cent response rate.

Simon Blackburn, of the Local Government Association, said: "Where it is cost effective and has an impact, councils continue to invest in and review their public-space CCTV operations."

Robert Plant to headline festival beadline festival beadline festival in the Cotswolds.

The former Led Zeppelin singer and his band The Sensational Space Shifters are top of the bill at the Wilderness Festival, held at Cornbury Park, near Oxford, from August 4 to 7.

Walsall-born musician Goldie will also be Walsall-born musician Goldie will also be well as the past three years, new figures reveal. tions were raised to the scheme by neigh-

bours worried about noise nuisance.

Up to 350 cars could be parked at the site but Reverend Mark Burchell from the church said that usually there would be no more than 150 there. He told the meeting: more than 150 there. He told the meeting:
"At peak times during the week we have
a need for overflow parking. It would be
a very rare occasion when we would ever
have 350 cars on that parking area. It
would normally be 100 to 150."

The development committee unanimously approved plans for the church to use the gravel area up to 24 times a year.

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# Sprout has play wrapped up



Dudley Zoo's young Bornean orang utan, Sprout, loves playing with towels and sheets

Dudley 200's young bornean orang ucan, op IT'S playtime at Dudley Zoo for Sprout the orang-utan who is having a fun time getting all wrapped up.

The zoo's Bornean orang-utans love noth-ing more than playing with towels and bed linen – and now zoo bosses have put out a plea to families for donations.

Staff are on the lookout for any unwanted clean bed linen and towels which the four apes, including four-year-old Sprout, can play with.

Pats Stevens, Dudley Zoo's upper primates section leader, said: "All four of our orangs love playing with bed sheets, but especially

"They wrap themselves in them, put them over their heads, drag them around their enclosure and dens, suck them and

make up all sorts of games.

"Bbut the sheets only withstand a day's orang play and then we have to throw them away at the end of the day, so we're constantly going through our own supply that we bring in from home."

People are welcome to donate clean heat the state of the day to constant a day.

sheets, towels and duvet covers but no duvets. They can be handed to customer services team in the Dudley Zoo Safari Shop, open from 10am to 4pm every day.

# **Paramedic HART** candidates tested

MORE than 30 paramedics were vying for a place on the latest training course to become a member of the Hazardous Area Response Team (HART).

HART teams provide paramedic care within a hazardous environment that would otherwise be beyond the reach of NHS care. Types of incidents they could be called upon include working at height using ropes, floods, infectious disease and at firearms incidents. ease and at firearms incidents.

Staff aiming to be selected had to go through several tests in an exercise at Himley Hall last week, which included a two-mile run, swimming 20 metres in a dry suit, helmet and gloves, a detailed clinical assessment and working as and gioves, a detailed climical assessment and working as part of a team. HART manager James Price said: "The staff who put themselves forward were, first and foremost, excellent paramedics. To get through this initial round of selection they also needed to be fit, determined, up for working in a team, supportive and not afraid to show leadership." Successful candidates get three months of intensive training.

# Poems for museum

AN annual poetry competition run by the Black Country Living Museum has opened for entries.

This year's theme is on 'Earth and Air', and is inspired by the historical events in our region.

The competition is open to adults ared 18 years plus.

to adults aged 18 years plus, and to poetry in any style. The first prize is £100, a family ticket to the museum

and publication on the museum website, and there are other prizes.

The closing date for en-

tries is July 29 at 5pm.
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**Dudley Chronicle** 

# 14 Memories sought for HRH's 90th

A CHURCH member is seeking stories from 90 people in Sedgley and Gornal for an exhibition to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

birthday.

Martin Jones, of All
Saints' Church in Vicar
Street, will create the exhibition, called Sedgley's
E II R 90', which will take
place over Her Majesty the
Queen's official birthday
weekend, June 10 to 12.

weekend, June 10 to 12.

It will feature accounts by 90 people about a personal experience or a significant event in Gornal and Sedgley in the past 90 years. He is especially keen to interview people over 65, as there is a shortage of stories for 1926 to 1951.

Anvone with a story Anyone with a story should contact Martin on mmjones29@blueyonder. co.uk or come along to the regular coffee mornings at All Saints' Church on Fri-days, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

### **Pupils prepare** for workplaces

SCHOOL pupils in Sedg-ley have started an eightweek-programme prepar-ing them for the world of

Year 11 students from Year 11 students from Dormston School have taken part in their first Employability Success Day, part of Employability UK's mentoring programme. It aims to prepare youngsters for the world of work and raise their aspirations by them making a rations by them making a short presentation to men-tors and school staff.

# Call to improve signs at junction after collision

A COUNCILLOR is calling for traffic signs at a junction in Sedgley to be urgently improved but has been told the site is not suitable.

The plea comes after two children were hurt in a serious crash where The Priory, Gospel End Street

and Vicar Street meet.

The youngsters were taken to hospital, while three adults also needed medical attention as a result of a twocar smash on Gospel End Street at around 9.30am on By David Callaghan

February 17 February 17.
Councillor Shaun Keasey says existing signage needs 'urgent maintenance', saying 'Give Way' signs appear to be facing in the wrong direction and the road markings are worn. He believes the 'Give Way' sign is insufficient and should be changed to 'Stop'.
The children, both young boys, were taken to Rus-

The children, both young boys, were taken to Russells Hall Hospital with chest pains, while the woman driver of their car was treated for a suspected a broken wrist. Another woman travelling with them suffered cuts to her head. The male driver of the second car, whose male passenger escaped injury, was taken to Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital with a head injury.

New Cross Hospital with a head injury. In a letter to the UKIP councillor, Dudley's Traf-fic Network Management's Richard Milburn said the site did not meet the strict

criteria for the use of a 'Stop' sign.' He said: "It is laid out in the Department for Transport regulations the rules for use includes, but are not limited to, visibility being for below the but are not infliced to, visibility being far below the normal required minimum for a 'Give Way.' This is not the case at this location. The site is not suitable for this change in signage."

But Mr Milburn did con-firm he would ask Highway Maintenance to re-mark the carriageway, a move which has been backed by Council-lor Hilary Bills, cabinet boss for transportation.

She said: "We will be re-

freshing the road markings and restoring the signs to their correct position to en-sure clarity to road users."

Councillor Keasey said:
"I believe road signs across
Sedgley need to be changed. It is only a matter of time before a tragedy occurs



The junction at Sedgley which Councillor Shaun Keasey believes could be made safer with new signs and road markings

# **Moves to** make busy roads safer

A COUNCILLOR has called for road signs to be installed close to an 'acci-dent black spot' following

a crash last week. UKIP Councillor Dean UKIP Councillor Dean Perks insists measures need to be taken to slow traffic driving along Parkes Hall Road in Upper Gornal.

This comes as two people This comes as two people were taken to hospital last Thursday night in the latest crash to take place on Parkes Hall Road.

Councillor Perks said: "I have called on the council to look at the road and get

to look at the road and get the traffic to slow down. It

the traffic to slow down. It is an accident black spot.
"Traffic calming measures seriously need to be implemented as there is no signage at all. "Black and white arrows could be installed to show it is a sharp

"Something needs to be done, we can't keep ignor-ing it and blaming drivers. Sometimes people need to be warned."

be warned."
Meanwhile, a scheme
was due to be signed off
this week to reduce speed
limits on busy roads close
to Straits Primary School in Lower Gornal.

The move aims to boost safety for pupils and their families.

A consultation was held with local councillors, po-lice, the primary school and residents at the end of

The limit will be reduced by 30mph to 20mph along roads including Longfellow Road, Wordsworth Road roads manners.
Road, Wordsworth Road
and Melton Crescent. Original plans also proposed
creating speed bumps
along Longfellow Road.







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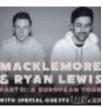
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### Of Mice And Men



Tuesday - March 12 Grand Theatre, W'ton The acclaimed production by director Roxana Silbert of John Steinbeck's drama set during America's Great
Depression, returns to the region after a successful recent run in Birmingham Visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk

### Hetty **Feather**



Tuesday - March 12 The Rep, B'ham The Olivier Award-nominated play based on Jacqueline Wilson's children's novel about the adventures of a Victorian foundling arrives at the Rep after a run in London's West End Visit www.birmingham-rep.co.uk

### **Foxes**



Tonight (Thursday), 7pm O2 Institute, B'ham Riding the wave of success that came from anthemic belter Better Love. Southampton-born Foxes – AKA Louisa Rose Allen – blazes a trail for pop music and fashion.
Visit o2institutebirmingham.co.uk

### Rudimental



Monday, 7pm O2 Academy, B'ham Following the chart-topping success of second album We The Generation, the Hackney outfit famous for their hit collaborations visit as part of a ninedate UK tour

Visit www.academymusicgroup.com

### POP & ROCK

Jamie Woon Sat at 6pm - 10pm. The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Sleeping With Sirens Sat at 6pm, £18.50 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

The Coral Thu at 7pm, The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

The Drifters Fri at 7.30pm, £26 New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

The Stones Fri at 7.30pm, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

Mon at 8.30pm, The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

The Blockheads Fri at 7.30pm, The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Theory Of A Deadman Fri at 6pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Lady Leshurr: Queen Of The Scene Tour Sun at 7pm, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.

The Catapult Club: The New Fri at 6pm, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.

Call 0121 622 8250 Johnny Hates Jazz The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Call 0121 622 8250

Reckless Love Sat at 7pm, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Adv Suleiman Sun at 7pm, Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

### Matt Woosey

Tue at 7.30pm, The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Dan Reed Network The Robin 2 Bilston, WV14 7LJ Call 01902 401211

Rudimental Mon at 7pm, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Fleshgod Apocalypse @ The Underworld Camden

Thu at 7pm, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

### **JAZZ & BLUES**

Jazz House Tue at 5.30pm - 7.30pm, Light House, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HT. Call 01902 716055

Room For The Blues Sunday at 4pm Dog & Doublet, Wolverhampton WV1 1RD Call 01902 423805

### **FOLK & ACOUSTIC**

Martin Simpson Stafford Gatehouse Theatre ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Tue at 7.30pm, Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Keston Cobblers Club Wed at 7pm - 11pm, Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

**Fairport Convention** Sun at 7.30pm, Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

### **CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC**

Rising Stars - Musica Callada/ Music Of Silence
Mon at 6pm - 9.30pm, £10
Birmingham Town Hall,
B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Brentano Quartet Tue at 7.30pm - 10pm, £9.50 - £28 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Symphony Of A Thousand Sun at 3pm, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Celebration Of Music Fri at 7pm, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Peter Donohoe Plays Shostakovich Wed at 2.30pm - 4.30pm, Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO 2015-16 -CBSO 2015-16 -Shostakovich's Fifteenth Wed at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO 2015-16 - Poulenc's **Gloria** Sat at 7pm, £12.50 - £45 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA Call 0121 780 3333

### **THEATRE**

Horrible Histories: Groovy Fri at 10.30am, Sat at

2.30pm, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Horrible Histories: Incredible

Invaders
Fri at 7pm, Sat at 10.30am,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Call 01902 573320

**Baldwin The Abdication** Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm. The Rose Theatre Kidderminster, DY10 2RX. Call 01562 743745

42nd Street Thu at 7.30pm, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX. Call 01562 743745

Thriller Live

Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Alice In Wonderland Thu at 7pm, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Call 01785 254653

Of Mice And Men
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm,
7.30pm, Thu at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
£8.50 - £35 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Welsh National Opera: The Marriage Of Figaro
Sat at 7pm, £16.50 - £50
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

The Tailor Of Inverness Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8pm, Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Count Duckula Live: The Jewels Of Duckula Sat at 2pm, £11.95 - £58.40 Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

The 39 Steps Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm, 7.30pm, Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

The Sensational 60s Experience Sat at 7.30pm, £20 - £25

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Hetty Feather Tue at 7pm, Wed at 10.30am, 7pm, Thu at 2.30pm, 7pm, £14 - £24 Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Mary Poppins Wed at 2pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £25.55 - £30.60 Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Welsh National Opera: The Barber Of Seville
Fri at 7.15pm, £16.50 - £50
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

The Russian State Ballet And Opera House: Madame Butterfly Fri at 7.30pm - 9.30pm, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT. Call 01743 281281

### COMEDY

Jethro: 40 Years The Joker Wed at 7.30pm, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Call 01785 254653

Stuart Goldsmith: An Hour Fri at 8pm, The Glee Club,

The Best In Live Stand-up Comedy Fri at 7pm, Sat at 7pm, The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Adam Hills: Clown Heart Sat at 8pm, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre. Call 01785 254653

Tommy Tiernan: Out Of The Whirlwind

Sun at 6.45pm - 11pm, The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

### **TALKS**

James Martin: Plates, Mates James Martin: Plates And Automobiles Thu at 7.30pm, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

An Evening With Liverpool Legends Fri at 6pm - 10pm, The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

### OTHER EVENTS

Crufts and Best In Show 2016 Thu at 8.15am - 6.30pm Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Barber Book Club: The Way To Paradise By Mario Vargas Llosa Tue at 2pm - 3pm, Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

Contemporary Craft Markets Sun at 11am, Free mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

**Practical Classic Restoration** And Classic Car Show Sat at 9am - 6pm, Sun at 9.30am The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

The National Wedding Show

Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10am -6pm, Sun at 10am - 5pm, The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

### **CLUBBING**

Drum & Bass Awards 2016 Sat - Sun at 9pm - 6am, Gatecrasher Birmingham, B15 1DA. Call 0121 633 1520

The Burlesque Ball UK Tour Sat at 8.30pm, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star

# Zizi a practically perfect Poppins

IT'S her dream job. Zizi Strallen grew up watching Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke star in the iconic 1964 movie version of Mary Poppins. It transported her to another world - and she didn't ever imagine she'd one day land

"I watched the film and read the book. I became completely ob-

"I watched the film and read the book. I became completely obsessed by it. And then when somebody like Cameron Mackintosh says 'do you want to do this?' you just go."

The spectacular travelling production will have a six-week run at Birmingham's Hippodrome from Wednesday (March 9), playing to almost 100,000 people. Zizi says it's as much fun for her as it is for the sell-out audience.

audiences. "We are so well looked after here and the company is absolutely amazing. It's not just about the people on stage, it's also the people who help

me fly every night.

"The work that goes into this production is absolutely immense.
We change venues and think: 'How on earth are they going to fit all of this kit into this theatre?' But they do. It never fails to impress." Zizi is an accomplished dancer and has enjoyed working

with Matthew Bourne, who has brought numerous ballets

### Sisters

Theatre is in her genes. Both her parents appeared in Cats, her aunt is Bonnie Langford and her two elder sisters are actresses Summer and Scarlett Strallen – Scarlett played Mary Poppins in London and on Broadway.

When Zizi isn't tripping the light fantastic or making

When Alzi isn't tripping the light lantastic or making magic as Mary Poppins, she writes her own scripts.

"It's a hobby, when I have time. I write comedy sketches. Once I've done everything I can do on stage, I would love to write professionally.

"I kind of started it because I was a big eavesdropper

when I was out having coffee in London. I write scripts that include lots of the funny stuff that I've overheard. People don't realise I'm listening and writing it all

She says Mary Poppins has lots of laugh-out-loud lines. "I really enjoyed finding the comedy and the wit in the script. Some of Mary's lines are so witty and



Sister act – rising star Zizi Strallen is following her sibling Summer's steps as Mary Poppins on stage photo: Matt Crockett

# Cleo atcha in Thriller Live

Live is coming to Birmingham's New Alexan-

dra Theatre for a six-day run from Monday.

The concert-style tribute to the genius of Michael Jackson has become a global phenomenon, taking 150 million dollars at the box office - half of that from its seven-year London run and UK tours.

Later this year the 2,901st performance of the show at the

Lyric Theatre will see Thriller Live overtake Evita to become

the 17th longest running West End musical.

Producer Paul Walden said: "This is proof positive that the music of Michael Jackson is still one of the hottest tickets on the planet. We are privileged to continue his musical legacy in Thriller Live, and to have taken it to theatres, concert halls

and arenas in 32 countries around the world.
"But we are certainly not resting on our laurels – this brand new version of the show has four new songs, a new opening, new production elements including new video, new

opening, new production elements including new vacco, non-costumes and special effects."

The arrival of the show in Brum will also mark a home-coming for one of its current stars, Birmingham-born Cleo Higgins. She is the former lead singer of sibling pop trio Cleopatra, who enjoyed a hit with Cleopatra's Theme (from debut album Comin' Atcha!) alongside her sisters Yonah and Zainam in 1998. Zainam in 1998.

Cleo reached the semi-finals of The Voice UK in 2013, choosing Will.i.am as coach after all four turned in the blind audition. Now she celebrates the music of Michael Jackson.

### It's Blockheads and touring Turin Brakes

KEY gigs include a concert by the late Ian Dury's band The Blockheads, now fronted by Derek 'The Draw' Hussey, at Bilston's Robin 2 venue tomorrow (Fri).

The line up includes Chaz Jankel, Norman Watt-Roy and Mick Gallagher, so expect the distinctive blend of music hall and funk with hits such as Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick. Support from Tipton's The Tramways.

Turin Brakes, who recently

Turin Brakes, who recently released their seventh studio album, Lost Property, are in concert at Birmingham's Arcadian Centre, on Tuesday, Funky US rock band Dan Reed Network play the Robin 2 on Wednesday.

### Painful memories as son plays his father

ACTOR Matthew Zajac plays his own father in The Tailor Of Inverness, which explores the elderly Pole's memories of his horrific experiences during the Second World War, that led him

Second World War, that led him to leave Poland for Scotland.
Written by Zajae, this story has added poignancy given the current refugee crisis. It is presented at Birmingham Repertory Theatre venue The Door, in the Centenary Square complex, from tonight (Thu) to Saturday.
London Classic Theatre stage Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party at Wolverhampton University's Arena Theatre. in

versity's Arena Theatre, in Wulfruna Street, tomorrow and

### X Factor winner to star in Grand panto

TICKETS are already on sale

TICKE'IS are already on sale for this year's pantomime at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Aladdin, with star singer Joe McElderry in the title role.

The X Factor winner will be joined by TV presenter, former Strictly and Emmerdale star Lisa Riley as the Slave of the Ring in the show at the Lichfield Street theatre from December. Street theatre from December

10 to January 22.
Also joining the panto line up is Black Country comedy character Doreen, as the laziest Empress that China has ever seen. Work shy Doreen Tipton, played by actress Gill Jordan, became an internet sensation and has featured in her own movie

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### **CHOICE**



### Casualty

Part two of two. In the aftermath of the incident that saw agency nurse Diana receive a shock from a defibrillator, Lofty must decide how to explain what occurred in the Emergency Department's official statement. Dylan tells him clarify it was an accident, but Lofty must decide whether he himself should carry the burden, Meanwhile, Cal falls while looking after Emilie, and the pair are admitted to the ED. forcing Ethan to face his birthmother for the first time. When it becomes clear that Emilie has pneumonia, and doesn't have long to live, Ethan and Cal must make a life-changing decision together, Medical drama. starring Lee Mead.

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live 11 30 Mary Berry's Foolproof Live. 11.30 Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Cycling. 2.00 Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v Japan. 4.30 Final Score. 5.20 Dynamo: Magician Impossible. 5.50 BBC News.

Impossible, 5.50 BBC News.

6.00 Regional Programme.

6.10 The Getaway Car. Dermot O'Leary hosts as another five duos arrive in the South African countryside to put their nerves, driving and communication skills, and ultimately their relationships to the test. This time, sisters Jodie and Aimi take to the wheel of "Little Miss Dalsoy". Hazard Highway's flowery WW Golf, and "rock gods in the making" Binny and Neil from Brighton also take to the track. Ex-HGV driver Dave and his partner HGV driver Dave and his partner Paula arrive from the Outer
Hebrides, and lifelong pals Pete
and Richard from South Yorkshire
put their friendship to the test on
the course. Plus, London-based
Thai kickboxing duo Talibah and Inal KICKDOXING DUO I alludar and Ami begin to wonder whether they have made the right choice as Talibah, who only passed her driving test just over a year ago, settles into the driver's seat. The Voice UK. The would-be stars enter the second and final round of

the Battle phase, in which the the Battle phase, in which the remaining artists from each team must take to the stage to secure their place in the Knockouts. As Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson seek to reduce the numbers in their respective groups down to eight singers each, the contestants will be considered from the properties of the properties of the properties for the properties of the properti must prepare themselves for another flurry of vocal showdowns, with their own superstar coaches deciding which of them will will be bowing out of the competition early.

9.00 Casualty. Part two of two. Lofty must make a statement about the defibrillator incident, and Ethan faces his birth-mother for the first time when she and Cal are admitted to the ED.

9.50 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin presents.
10.00 BBC News; Weather.

**10.20** Match of the Day. **11.50** Film: The Recruit. (2003)

1.40 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.45 BBC News.

### RRC2

6.05 Film: After Tonight. (1933) 7.15 Film: The Quatermass Xperiment. (1955) 8.35 Film: Dean Spanley. (2008) 10.10 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 11.10 Natural World. (R) 12.00 Rick Stein's India. (R) 1.00 The Best Dishes Ever. (R) 1.30 Alfred Hitchcock: Talking Pictures. (R) 2.05 Film: Notorious.

Pictures. (R) 2.05 Film: Notorious. (1946) Alfred Hitchcocks thriller, starring Cary Grant. 3.45 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.30 Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v Japan. 5.30 Flog It! (R) 6.00 Gardeners' World. Horticultural ideas and advice. (R) 6.30 Back in Time for the Weekend. The Ashby-Hawkins family enters the 1990s, a decade where new technology starts to dominate their leisure time. Twelve year-old Seth finally gets his hands on a Seth finally gets his hands on a Game Boy and games console, while the arrival of the internet and while the arrival of the internet and a mobile phone marks the start of how many spend their spare time now. Steph and Rob try out line-dancing, and fitness star Mr Motivator puts them through their paces. Tommy Walsh and Linda Barker also turn up to help the family give the house and garden a 90s makenow. (R)

7.30 Queen Victoria's Children. The second episode focuses on the monarch's relationship with he daughters, revealing how she clung to and bullied the princesses, as well as arranging vho they should marry. (R

who they should marry. (R)

3.0 Dad's Army, Jones buys blackmarket pigeons from wheelerdealer Walker – but is hortfield to
discover the birds were taken from
Trafalgar Square. Conedy, starring
Clive Dunn and James Beck. (R)
9.00 Stag. Johnners' stag party is
beseiged in the home of the
sinister gamekeeper, until
Christoph, a suspiciously helpful
gate-crasher, arrives and offers to
lead everyone to safety.

lead everyone to safety.

10.00 Film: Dom Hemingway. (2013)
Premiere. A safe cracker releasec
from prison goes to the South of
France to collect a debt and

France to collect a debt and reconnect with his daughter. Comedy crime drama, starring Jude Law and Emilia Clarke.

11.30 Line of Duty. The return of the crime thriller about a police anti-corruption unit. DI Lindsay Dento comes under suspicion after a police convoy is ambushed. (R)

12.30 Line of Duty. (R) 1.30 Film: Lebanon. (2009) 2.55 This Is BBC Two

B. 00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. 6. 15
Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6. 25 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6. 35 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6. 50 Signed
Stories. (R) 6. 55 Sooty. (R) 7. 05 Super
4. (R) 7. 15 Looped. (R) 7. 30
Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7. 35
Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7. 35
Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated
Series. (R) 7. 50 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry, (R) 8. 10 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry, (R) 8. 11 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry, (R) 8. 11 Scrambled!: Jessie. 9.05
Scrambled!: The Tom 8. Jerry Show (R)
Jezemy Kyle Show (R) 12.15 TIV News;
Weather, 12.24 Regional Programme.
12.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 1.30
Judge Rinder. (R) 2. 30 Tipping Point. (R)
3.35 Film: The Spy Who Loved Me.
(1917) James Bond spy adventure,
starring Roger Moore.
6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.10 ITV News; Weather.
6.30 New You've Been Framed! More

6.30 New You've Been Framed! More

7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night

Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. Hollywood actress Kate Hudson joins the entertainer duo as this week's Guest Announcer, and Bear Grylls receives the surprise of his life when Ant and Dec go Undercover — in total darkness. Stephen Mulbean precides over Art ye Dec Mulhern presides over Ant vs Dec, in which the pair must sing for their lives, and the plot thickens in the second instalment of Who the second instalment of Who Shot Simon Cowell?, with David Walliams becoming the latest suspect. Plus. Brit Award-winning singer Jess Glynne takes part in the End of the Show Show, and another lucky audience member is selected to play Win the Ads. 8.30 Take Me Out. A musical theatre performer from Mansfield, a City teder. a Blechrool car extensi

trader, a Blackpool car salesman and an account executive from Milton Keynes enter the "love lift" Last in the series.

Last in the series.

10.00 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host is joined in the studio by Richard Gere, Roisin Conaty, Jack Black and Motown founder Berry Gordy, who introduces a performance by the cast of Motown the Musical. 11.00 ITV News: Weather.

11.20 Film: Never Say Never Again. (1983) Action adventure, with Sean Connery.

1.35 Jackpot247. 3.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.

### **CHANNEL 4**

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) 6.40 The King of Queens. (R) 7.05 Freeride World Tour. 7.30 The Grid. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 The Morning Line. 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Superplanmans Show. 11.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 Marvei's Agents of SHIELD. 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Doncaster and Newbury. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.05 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.05 Come Dine with Me. It is the final

6.05 Come Dine with Me. It is the final night in Manchester and glamorous goth Maria is serving her twist on Asian cuisine, which manages to impress daddy's girl Sasha. (R)

Sasha. (R)
6.35 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy
West and Prunella Scales travel
along the Forth and Clyde Canal
and the Union Canal in a coast-tocoast adventure from Edinburgh to
Glasgow, taking in Scotland's
highest aqueduct and longest
canal tunnel, as well some striking
examples of 21st-century engineering and monumental sculptures. Last in the series. (R)

sculptures. Last in the series. (H)
Penelope Keith's Hidden
Villages. The actress travels
through the South Downs and the
Weald of Susex and Kent, reliving
the Cuckfield Donkey Races and
delving into the life of Rudyard
Kipling. Last in the series.

9.00 Flim: The Bourne Legacy, (2012)
The leaders of a secret
government agency plan to
eliminate several agents as part of
a cover-up when they face having
their dark secrets exposed. One of
the assassins targeted is able to
evade his fate and go on the run—
but his escraic is threatened by his but his escape is threatened by his dependence on drugs to boost his physical and mental capabilities. Spy thriller sequel, with Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz and Edward

Norton.

11.40 Film: Seven Psychopaths. (2012)
A writer turns to two crooks for
advice about a script, but ends up
in danger when they kidnap a
gangster's dog. Comedy thriller,
with Colin Farrell and Sam
Rockwell.

1.40 Hollyoaks. (R) 3.50 Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. (R) 4.45 Location, Location, Location. (R)

### **CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshake! 8.55 The Fairly OddParents. 9.30 The Saturday Show Live. 11.30 Film: Star Trek: The Motion Picture. (1979) 2.00 Criminally Funny: caught in the Act. (R) 3.00 Now That's Funny! (R) 4.00 Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) 5.00 Grannies Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R)

Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Documentary series giving an insight into the world of debt collection. Kevin Stokes and Brian collection. Revin Stokes and Brian O'Shaughnessy try to collect a debt from a technology company in Middlesex – and with the director nowhere to be seen, the office manager does everything she can to prove the business is she can to prove the business is no longer trading. Stewart McCracken and Elmor Victor face a heartbreaking house repossession in Merseyside, where two landlords are forced to evict a tenant recovering from a brain tumour which has cost him his job and income. (R)

7.00 World War II in Colour. The war in the Pacific in the spring of 1943, when America went on the offensive against Japan, launching a two-pronged attack to drive their forces back. (R)

The Gadget Show. Jon Bentley tests a product intended to replace both a laptop and tablet, while in the US, Yue Xu visits CES, the world's biggest technology exhibition. (R)

5 News Weekend.

The Championship: Football
League Tonight. Kelly Cates and
George Riley present extended
highlights of the weekend's
matches, which include Burnley v
Blackburn Rovers.

Blackburn Rovers.

10.00 Goal Rush: Football League
Tonight. Kelly Cates and George
Riley present a round-up of all the
goals and talking points from
League One and League Two, as
well as a look at the latest league
tables.

tables.

10.30 Law & Order: Special Victims

Unit. A biker gang member's

mutilated body is found in a park,
and Stabler fights to prove his
partner's innocence when Benson
is linked to the murder by DNA evidence, (R)

11.20 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 I Want That Wedding! (R)

### **DIGITAL**

BBC Four
7.00 Human Planet 8.00 Survivors:
Nature's Indestructible Creatures 9.00
Trapped 10.45 Doris Day: Virgin Territory
11.45 Sings Musicals 12.45 Sound of
Cleman: The Music That Mude In the Movies 1.45 Top of the Pops: 1981 2.45 Top of the Pops: 1981 2.45 Doris Day:
Virgin Territory 3.45 Close
TIV2

ITV2

11.15 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night
Takeaway 12.45 The Almost Impossible
Gameshow 1.45 Catchphrase 2.25
Scorpion 3.20 Film: Beethoven's 2nd
(1993) 5.10 Film: Despicable Me 2
(2013) 7.10 Film: Hulk (2003) 10.00 Take Me Out — The Gossip 11.00 Family Guy 11.55 American Dadl 12.50 The Keith Lemon Sketch Show 1.20 Ibiza Weekender 2.10 Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands 3.00 Teleshopping

11V3
12.25 A Touch of Frost 2.30 Wycliffe
3.45 Jane Eyre 6.00 Midsomer Murders
10.00 A Touch of Frost 12.10 Blue
Murder 1.40 Doctor in the House 2.05
ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

11.35 Pawn Stars 12.30 Live Darts: UK 11.35 Pawn Stars 12.30 Live Darts: UK Open. Coverage of the second day at the Butlins Minehead Resort. 5.00 Storage Wars: Texas 6.00 Pawn Stars 7.00 Live Darts: UK Open. Further coverage of the second day at the Butlins Minehead Resort. 11.00 Film: The Hitcher (2007) 12.40 Hell on Wheels 1.35 Minder 2.35 Movies Now 2.45 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleschopping. Teleshopping

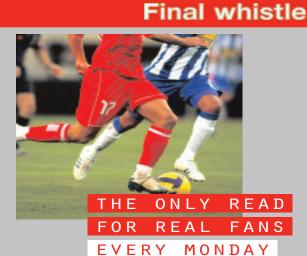
11.00 How I Met Your Mother 12.00 The Jump 1.00 The Goldbergs 3.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: The Inbetweeners Movie (2011) 11.00 Tattoo Fixers 12.00 Gogglebox 2.10 Virtually Famous 2.50 Tattoo Fixers 3.45 How I Met Your Mother 4.30 Revenue Mother 4.30 Revenge

Film4
11.00 Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs
(2009) 1.00 Leap Year (2010) 3.05 True
Grit (1969) 5.40 Avatar (2009) A soldier
uses a genetically engineered body to
help an alien tribe fight off a corrupt
mining corrupt manes Cameron's help an alien tribe tight off a corrupt mining corporation. James Cameron's sci-fi adventure, with Sam Worthington and Zoe Saldana. 9.00 Les Miserables (2012) A former prisoner pursued by a fanatical police inspector in post-revolutionary France is drawn into a political uprising. Musical, with Hugh Jackman and Russell Crowe. 12.05 Don't Be Afraid of the Dark (2010) 2.05 Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo (1999) 3.55 Close









If you want the definitive read on the weekend football action there is only one place to go - Final whistle supplement in the Express & Star. Packed with match reports, infographics and player reaction, Final whistle offers the best football coverage around. With expert analysis from star pundits like Kevin Phillips, as well as graphics of the key moments, tables and stats, make sure you get

A real football read for real football fans.

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An Express & Star supplement

**Express & Star** 

### CHOICE



### **Doctor Thorne** (ITV. 9pm)

New series. Julian Fellowes' three-part adaptation of Anthony Trollope's historical novel, starring Tom Hollander as a doctor who is forced to tell his niece the secrets of her past when she is barred from attending her best friend's wedding. The truth threatens her own plans to marry the heir to a country estate, and the mother of her intended plots to push her son in the direction of an American heiress

Meanwhile, the doctor also advises a railway tycoon who is drinking himself into an early grave. With Alison Brie, lan McShane and Rebecca Front.

### BBC<sub>1</sub>

6.00 Breakfast. 7.25 Match of the Day.
(R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Regional Programme. 12.15 BBC News; Weather. 12.30 Regional Programme. 1.00 Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v Japan. 4.30 Escape to the Country. (R) 5.00 Songs of Praise. 5.35 Nature's Miracle Orphans.

6.35 BBC News

6.35 BBC News.
6.50 Regional Programme.
7.00 Countryfile. Anita Rani and John
Craven explore Northern Ireland.
John visits Rathin Island and
finds out about its growing kelp
industry, while Anita walks part of
the Ulster Way and meets a farmer
who hires out his animals for IV
programmes. Adam Henson
checks up on his farm's pregnant
goats and cows, and Tom Henson
investigates ways of improving
safety for farm vets. Including
Weather For The Week Ahead.
8.00 Call the Midwife. Dr Turner is

Call the Midwife. Dr Turner is horrified to realise he may be partly to blame as the cause of the recent rise in birth deformities comes to light, and tries to preven further cases. Sister Evangelina further cases. Sister Evangelina returns to work, but has clearly been affected badly by her stroke, and her health continues to deteriorate. A pregnant bride goes into labour during her wedding reception, while her mother is forced to come to terms with her grandchild being conceived out of wedlock. Last in the series. The Night Manager Anostol

wedlock. Last in the series.

The Night Manager. Apostol throws a lawish party to celebrate his daughter's birthday – but when the guest of honour is found dead, he becomes vulnerable and Burr is able to gain leverage over him. Roper digs deeper into Pine's fictitious criminal past and offers him a job in his organisation – but Corky remains suspicious of the newcomer. When Pine is given permission to take Daniel into town, he and Burr have a chance to share intelligence and deal with to share intelligence and deal with a potential threat to their plans by persuading the troubled Apostol to turn on Corky.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Review of the latest Premier League action.

11.35 Live Women's Football.

12.45 Weather for the Week Ahead.

### RRC2

6.00 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) 6.45 Great British Garden Revival. (R) 6.45 Creat British Garden Revival. (R)
7.45 Cardeners' World. (R) 8.15 An
Island Parish. (R) 8.45 Countryfile. (R)
9.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.15
The Best Dishes Ever. (R) 12.15 MOTD2 Extra.
1.00 Triathlon. 2.00 Live Cycling. Day
five of the UCI Track World
Chapmionship.

 Championsnips.
 Stacey pick out a German set of doll's houses and a collection of Minton sporting tiles from the antiques and collectibles at antiques and collectibles at Stapleford Park in Leicestershire. Meanwhile, Paul Martin explores nearby Kirby Hall to find out how the building was designed for Elizabeth 1. (R)

Who's the Boss? The boss of a Preston-based chocolate Preston-based chocolate manufacturer gives his entire workforce the power to decide on who will become its new Business Development Manager. The three candidates competing for the job think it's him they need to impress Instead, everyone in the company will secretly assess them in a series of workfalser basek designer. will secretly assess them in a series of workplace tasks designed to test the applicants in every corner of the company. But as this week-long recruitment experiment continues, an upstairs/downstairs split emerges between the sales team and two of the longest serving workers on the factory floor. (R)

Steve Backshall's Extreme Mountain Challenge. Part one of two. The naturalist leads a team o rock climbers across Venezuela's

rock climbers across Venezuela's tepuis – sheer-sided mountains surrounded by jungle – toraving wildlife and rapids to reach them.

9.00 Let's Play Darts for Sport Relief 2016. Gabby Logan hosts the semi-final of the contest in which big names from the world of darts ignin forces with celebrities in a knockout tournament held at the Lakeside, Frinley Green with celebrities in a knockout tournament held at the Lakeside, Frinley Green with celebrities in a knockout tournament held at the Lakeside, Frinley Green with celebrities in a knockout tournament held at the Lakeside, Frinley Green with celebrities in a collar for 13 years, while the police search for her kidnapper. Starring Jodie Comer.

11.00 The People v OJ Simpson:

11.00 The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story. (R) 11.40 Film: Shifty. (2008)

1.05 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 2.00 Holby City. (R) 3.00 This Is BBC Two.

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. 6.15
Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.25 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.30 Signed
Stories: Share a Story. (R) 6.50 Signed
Stories: Share a Story. (R) 6.55 Sooty.
(R) 7.05 Supper 4. (R) 7.15 Looped. (R)
7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35
Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animatel
Series. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Hords 4
Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Hords 4
Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls
Sounval School. 9.60 Sca. 50 Scrambled:
Sumval School. 9.60 Sca. 50 Scrambled:
Jeanny (K) 6.50 Sca. 50 S

home and in other lands.

8.00 The Story of Cats. New series.
Wildlife series comparing the behaviour of domestic felines to big cats in the wild. Lion expert Kevin Richardson offers an insight into feline communication. Plus, a look at the climbing skills of sabretooth wild cats that hunt in the jungles of South East Asia, and how Namibian caracals are able to jump over three metres and catch birds in flight.

9.00 Dector Thorne. New series, Julian.

Doctor Thorne. New series. Julian Fellowes' adaptation of Anthony Trollope's novel, starring Tom Hollander as a doctor dealing with the secrets of his niece's past as she prepares to marry.

10.00 ITV News; Weather 10.20 Brits Behind Bars. With

10.20 Brits Behind Bars. With thousands of UK citizens currently held in jails around the world, this documentary focuses on the moving cases of British overseas prisoners. (R)

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the 15th round of fixtures, including Newcastle Falcons v Worcester Warriors.

12.15 Jackpot247. 3.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

### **CHANNEL 4**

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) 6.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Frasier. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** The Simpsons. (R) 9.00 The Simpsons. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 Amazing Spaces: Simpsons. (R) **1.00** Amazing Spaces: Floating Homes. (R) **2.00 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules. (2011) a Wimpy Kid: Hodrick Hules, (2011)
Children's comedy sequel, starring
Zachary Gordon. 4.00 Film: Home Alone
2: Lost in New York. (1992) Comedy
sequel, starring Macaulay Culkin.
6.15 Channel 4 News.
6.30 The Secret Life of the Zoo.
Retherbild gizeffe Oda is shout to

Rothschild giraffe Orla is about to give birth to her second calf but is three weeks overdue. This episode three weeks overdue. This episode captures the arrival of the giraffe family's youngest member and its introduction to the rest of the herd. Cameras also follow the Chester team as they attempt to save mountain chicken frogs from extinction, and there's a look at the secret world of these discretives. secret world of three disruptive aardvarks. (R)

7.30 The Jump: The Final. Davina INE Jump: INE PITAL DAVINA MCCall presents one last trip to the Austrian Alps for the grand final of the celebrity winter sports challenge. This year's series of The Jump has been infamous for a high rate of injuries among the competitors, making it even more uncertain than normal who the uncertain than normal who the finalists will be. The contestants who have managed to make it this far will have to prove their worth nat will have to prove their worth on the slopes in one last winter sporting event to decide which of them will get to take home this year's Jump Cowbell Trophy. Last in the series.

in the series.

9.00 Film: American Hustle. (2013)
Premiere. A conman is caught in
the act by the FBI, but a maverick
agent offers him the chance to
escape prison by assisting in a
sting operation. The hustler finds
himself involved in a scheme to
bring down the corrupt, Mafiaaffiliated politician, only to find his
own ex-wife holdring revenue. affiliated politician, only to find his own ex-wife plotting revenge. Crime drama set in the 1970s, starring Christian Bale, Amy Adams, Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence.

11.40 Film: An Officer and a Gentleman. (1982) Romantic drama, starring Richard Gere.

1.55 The Secret Life of the Pub. (R) 2.50 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.05 Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. (R)

### **CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 6.20 Angelina
Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Bob the Builder. (R)
6.45 Tickely Toc. (R) 6.52 Scak and
Ouack. (R) 7.05 Roobarb and Custard
Ouack. (R) 7.05 Roobarb and Custard
Toc. (R) 7.15 Make Way for Noddy. (R)
7.30 Paw Patrol. (R) 7.45 Little Princess
(R) 8.00 Pip Ahoyl. (R) 8.15 Blaze and
the Monster Machines. 8.45 Ben and
Hollys Little Kingdom. (R) 9.00 Ways
and the Allen. (R) 9.10 Toby's Travelling
Circus. (R) 9.20 Jelly Jammi. (R) 9.30
LazyTown. (R) 9.55 The Fairly
OddParents. 10.30 The Championship:
Football League Tonight. (R) 11.25 Goal OddParents. 10.30 The Championship: Football League Tonight. (R) 11.25 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. (R) 11.55 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.50 Star Trek: The True Story. (R) 1.50 Film: Star Trek II: The Wrath of khan. (1982) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring William Shatner. 3.55 Film: Star Trek III: The Search for Spock. (1984) Sci-fi sequel, with William Shatner. 6.00 Film: Star Trek IV: The Voyage Hame (1986) The Enterprise crew

Film: Star Trek IV: The Voyage
Home. (1986) The Enterprise crew
travels back in time to prevent an
alien probe destroying the Earth.
The only thing that can avert the
disaster is a humpback whale, a
creature extinct in the 23rd century
– but adjusting to life back in 1986
proves a distinct challenge. Sci-fi
adventure sequel, starring William
Shatner. DeForest Kelley and
Leonard Nirmoy, who also directed.

Leonard Nimoy, who also directed.

8.10 Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas.
New series. The magicians
challenge illusionists to outwit
them with their tricks, Participants
include Simon Pierro, who
demonstrates "digital magic"
using a large tablet computer.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: Grown Ups 2. (2013)
Premiere. A man moves his family
back to the town where he grew
up, so his children can have the
same upbringing he had. While he
same upbringing he had. While he

same upbringing he had. While he and his three childhood friends try and his three childhood friends try to relive their lost youth, they discover their kids have a thing or two to teach them during the last day of school. Comedy sequel, starring Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Kevin James and David Spade.

(2006) Comedy, starring Owen Wilson, Matt Dillon and Kate Hudson.

1.10 SuperCasino. 3.10 The Great British Benefits Handout. (R) 4.00 Wildlife SOS. (R) 4.50 Great Artists. (R) 5.15 Great Scientists. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)

### **DIGITAL**

BBC Four
7.00 Jigs & Wigs: The Extreme World of Irish Dancing 8.00 Do We Really Need the Moon? 9.00 Film: Wakolda (2013) 10.25 Himmler: The Decent One – Storyville 11.55 The Heart of Country: How Nashville Became Music City USA 1.25 Johnny Cash: The Man, His World, His Music 2.25 Singer-Songwiters at the BBC 3.25 Birder-Songwiters at the BBC 3.25 Birder-Songwiters at Play 3.55 Close 1.25 John Prim: Brits at Play 3.55 John

ITV2

11.20 Take Me Out 12.50 Take Me Out —
The Gossip 1.55 Film: Back to the Future Part II (1989) 4.05 Ant & Dec'S Saturday Night Takeaway 5.40 Catchphrase Mother's Day Special 6.40 Film: Back to the Future Part III (1990) 9.00 biza Weekender 10.00 Family Guy 10.30 Bordertown 11.00 Family Guy 12.00 American Dad 12.55 The Cleveland Show 1.50 Totally Bonkers Guiness World Records 2.15 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen ITV3

11.35 Jane Eyre 1.45 Wycliffe 2.55
Agatha Christie's Marple 4.55 Margery
and Gladys 7.00 Midsomer Murders 9.00
Carry On Forever 10.00 Mrs Biggs 11.35
Film: Something's Gotta Give (2003)
2.00 Film: Agatha (1979) 3.40 May the
Best House Win 5.20 Judge Judy 5.40
ITV3 Nightscreen

12 45 Live Darts: LIK Onen. The quarter 12.45 Live Darts: UK Open. The quarter-finals at the Butlins Minehead Resort. 5.00 Storage Wars: Texas 5.55 The Car Chasers 7.00 Live Darts: UK Open. The semi-finals and final at the Butlins Minehead Resort. 11.00 Film: Smokin' Aces (2007) 1.10 Ax Men 2.10 Highway Patrol 2.35 Movies Now 2.45 ITV<sup>4</sup> Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping

12.30 The Big Bang Theory 6.35 Film: Mission: Impossible 2 (2000) 9.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 10.00 Tattoo Fixers 12.05 Rude Tube 1.05 The 100 2.05 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.50 Tattoo Fixers 3.40 Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 The Rocker (2008) 1.00 New in Town (2009) 2.50 Tooth Fairy (2010) 4.50 Evolution (2001) 6.50 The Time Traveler's Wife (2009) 9.00 Morning Glory (2010) Premiere. A TV producer tries to revive an early morning TV show's fortunes, but has to contend when the contend the traveler of the travel (2009) 12.50 The Great Beauty (2013) 3.40 Close







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# **PICK OF THE WEEK**

### **FILM CHOICES**

moke Screen, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A TV reporter finds herself thrown into the midst of a murder investigation when she wakes up next to a dead body and cannot remember a thing about the night before. Fighting to prove her innocence, she must use all of her investigative skills to get to the bottom of the killing. Drama, with Jaime Pressly. (2010)

Forget Me Not, BBC1, 11.45pm

A teenager about to graduate from high school has put a horrific incident in her childhood behind her. When her friends begin disappearing, she is forced to face up to her past misdeeds, as she discovers an angry spirit is seeking revenge on them for a crime they committed as children. Horror, starring Carly Schroeder and Cody Linley, (2009)

Confessions of a Shopaholic, BBC1, 11.45pm Aspiring fashion journalist Rebecca Bloomwood accepts a position writing for a financial magazine. As she sets the publishing world alight with her unique brand of consumer advice. Rebecca is forced to confront her own purchasing habits and begins to question whether rampant spending sprees are the way to true happiness. Comedy, starring Isla Fisher, Hugh Dancy, Krysten Ritter and Joan Cusack. (2009)



The Mystery Cruise, Channel 5, 3.20pm

During a three-day murder-mystery game on board a cruise ship to promote the release of her bestselling mother's latest novel, a private investigator and her best friend suspect that a real killer may be on the loose. Thriller, starring Gail O'Grady. (2013)

Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil, BBC2,

An antiques dealer in a Deep South town kills his gay lover, claiming his actions were in self-defence. A journalist sent to write a feature on the party stays in town to cover the trial, and delves into the local underworld to discover what really happened. Fact-based drama, starring John Cusack. (1997)

# A very different side of life awaits the stars

ake a gaggle of television personalities, drop them into a completely alien location stripped of all the comforts of modern life and make them fend for themselves.

Internseives.

No it's not I'm A Celebrity Get Me
Out O'l Here, Celebrity Big Brother or
Bear Grylls: Mission Survive.

Instead, this social experiment, the
first version of which first aired in 2009,
is actually one of those examples of
quality reality TV that uses pampered
stars to full effect while raising
awareness of a key social matter.

The prompine of Engruse, Bich and

The premise of Famous, Rich and Homeless is quite simple: four Sports Relief volunteers agree to sleep rough on the streets of London to experience the harsh reality of homelessness in the UK.

Back in 2009, comedian Hardeep Singh Kohli, former tennis player Annabel Croft, ex-newspaper editor Rosie Boycott, Winston's Churchill's great nephew the Marquis of Blandford, and Coronation Street actor Bruce Jones all took part.

Now following in their footsteps are

Julia Bradbury, former snooker player Willie Thorne and celebrity cleaner Kim Woodburn.

Over two shows, the quartet all struggle with isolation, fear, the cold and wet, and the effort of day-to-day survival. For each volunteer the streets become a test of strength and self-reliance – and not everybody copes.

In addition, the famous faces also start to examine their own lives and their personal relationship to

Thorne has gambled hundreds of thousands of pounds away during a 40-year gambling addiction and has recently gone bankrupt.

Meanwhile, Woodburn survived being homeless herself as a teenager and has strong opinions on how deserving of help – or not – the homeless are in the UK.

This social experiment, again led by John Bird, founder of The Big Issue, aims to expose the realities of the homeless problem in the UK.

The number of rough sleepers has gone up 55 per cent and the average

age of death for a homeless man is just 47 years old, 43 if you're a

One in 10 of us will experience oriel in Tu of US Will experience homelessness in some form during our lives, and it can happen to anyone – Halle Berry, Jim Carrey, Daniel Craig, Ella Fitzgerald, Jennifer Lopez, Hilary Swank, Charlie Chaplin and Harry Houdini are just a few of the global superstars who slept rough before making their showbiz millions.

Despite this show's worthy themes and legitimately jaw-dropping statistics about the number of people who sleep rough every night, many viewers will watch Famous, Rich and Homeless solely to see a group of celebrities taken out of their comfort zones.

However, 2009's experiment proved to be successful in raising awareness through a group of (mostly articulate) personalities who genuinely seemed to care about the subject matter.

Therefore, the show turned out to be effective and affecting – and arguably one of the best use of celebrities that television has seen for



Famous, Rich and Homeless, Wednesday, BBC1, 9pm

# **BEST OF THE REST**

Frontline Doctors: Winter Migrant Crisis BBC1, 9pm

Chris and Xand van Tulleken have worked in disaster zones across the world. However, the latest crisis is unfolding much closer to home, as Europe faces it largest migration since the Second World War. Now, Chris and Xand are learning more about the medical needs of those who have made the perilous journey from war-torn countries by visiting locations across Europe. The duo discovers that in addition to carrying the mental and physical scars of their homelands, the refugees face fresh problems in Europe. In Greece, the dangerous boat journeys mean that hypothermia and frostbite are prevalent, while in Calais, overcrowding has led to fears of disease

### TUESDAY Happy Valley BBC1, 9pm

Daniel suspects somebody at school might be responsible for Ryan's new-found interest in Tommy and tries to explain that he wasn't really a dad to him, while, despite Sean protesting his innocence, Jodie and John receive permission to charge him with all of the murders. However, delight at the

developments is tempered when another body is found in the early hours, and Daryl wakes a stunned Alison in the middle of the night and confesses to murder, leading to dramatic scenes at

### WEDNESDAY **Dunblane: Our Story**

BBC2, 9pm Documentary commemorating the 20th anniversary of the firearms tragedy in Dunblane, near Stirling, in which a gunman shot dead 16 pupils and their teacher at a primary school. The film features testimony from a survivor, who was shot as a five year old and details her terrifying experience. It also includes an interview with the headmaster of the school at the time of

the shootings, as well as contributions from family members of the survivors and the deceased, including two young women. who talk about sisters they

THURSDAY The Secret History of My Family BBC2, 8pm

The Gadbury sisters were three

pickpocketing siblings raised in 1830s Shoreditch, in the heart of London's criminal underworld. The first of a new documentary series on social mobility and social stasis examines how two of them were nished to England's 'thief colony.' However, as a twist on Who Do You Think You Are?, some

remarkable stories are discovered as we delve into their history. Among the ladies' Australian descendants are a couple of Supreme Court Judges and a Government Premier. As for the girl left in England, two of her descendants are a bin man and a window cleaner The remarkable story of the

> subsequent branches of the family tree, are examined by their descendants. FRIDAY

Gadbury girls, and

Crufts 2016 Channel 4, 7.30pm New series

Live from the NEC in Birmingham, Clare Balding hosts launches Channel 4's coverage of the 125th anniversary of the world's largest dog event, continued from More4. This edition features a lively debate on canine health and welfare, with Professor Noel Fitzpatrick, Kate Bevan and Nick Blayney, and a look at the benefits of microchipping before it becomes compulsory under UK law next month. Plus, Iwan Thomas tries his hand at dog agility, and judging comes from the Vulnerable Breed and Gundon

### Land of Hope and Glory - British Country

For almost 120 years, Country Life magazine has been the property bible for anyone looking to buy a grand country house. Jane Treays spends a year visiting cottages, manor houses and castles through the eyes of the magazine - and seeing how people live in them. Properties range from a crumbling historic mansion in Oxfordshire and a glorious Scottish estate basking in its £13million refurbishment, to the inherited turrets of Picton Castle in south-west Wales, and the noisy environment of a huntsman's 18th-century kennels

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included).

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\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show
— see brochure/web page for details.

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MAMHA NIA:

The ticket is for a Saturday evening performance







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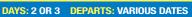












Thinking space

No.367

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off. ้ร LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION  $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{E} & \mathbf{L} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{M} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{D} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D} & \mathbf{L} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}$ 

### **Double Crossword**

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

### Cryptic Clues:

- 1. Neat and honest (8) 5. The boss has a lot of horses (4) 9. A singular occasion
- 10. The return from the
- capital (8)

  11. The ultimate
- in sporting entertainment (5)
- 12. Grave words (7)
  13. Like a miner with time on his hands?
- (5,8) 18. The patient does little to make such treatment effective
- (4-4)19. One may win it by a
- head (4) 20. Some terrible mishap results in a scar (7)
- . Make a false impression (5)
- 22. An engagement, or the girl to whom you may become engaged (4)
- 23. Many steps have been taken for the sake of it (8)

- 2. One isn't shaken though it may make one shake (7)
- storm? (7)
- 4. Is he making an empty protest? (6-7)
- 6. Possibly pray when under the treatment
- 7. Many felt irritated and abandoned (7)
- contradiction (6) 13. Sort of bounder
- lacking rich investments (7) 14. Drop of French
- perfume (7) 15. Reporter's
- comeback perhaps
- 17. Flag officers? (7)

# **Quick Clues**

### Across

- 1. Expunging (8) 5. Twirl (4)
- 9. An insect (4)
- 10. Impressive (8)
- **11.** Tranquil (5)
- 12. Immediate (7)
- **13.** Stupidity (13) **18.** Thorough (8)
- 19. Pace (4)
- 20. Novels (7)
- 21. Corn (5)
- 22. Nightfall (4)
- 23. Be like (8)

- 2. Rubbing out (7)
- 3. Utter (7)
- 4. Faint hope (7,6)
- 6. Archbishop (7)
- 7. Nullifies (7)
- 8. Osculates (6) 13. Jeered (7)
- 14. Observes (7)
- 15. Draw out (6) 16. Quack remedy (7)

### 17. Particular (7)

### Sudoku

	7			3				
		4			7	5		1
			5	6				3
6	1	5	3		9	2		
4				8				6
		8	6		1	9	5	
8				5	3			7
9		7				4		
				7			6	

every column every row and each of the 3x3 all the digits

SOLUTIONS >								
5	8	1	7	3	4	2	9	Γ
4	7	6	5	9	2	1	8	Ì
2	3	9	6	8	1	5	7	ľ
1	6	4	2	5	9	8	3	
7	5	2	8	6	3	9	4	
3	9	8	1	4	7	6	2	
6	4	5	3	2	8	7	1	Γ
9	2	7	4	1	5	3	6	ľ
8	1	3	¢	7	6	4	5	

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across - 1 Bourby: 4 Praiedt; 3 Faces
the music; 10 Earnest; 11 Mormat; 12 Fames;
14 Scope; 18 Rings; 19 Records; 21 Private
income; 22 Rushed; 23 Modest, Down: 1 Buffet;
2 Uncertainties; 3 Taste; 5 Romanic; 6 To some
purpose; 7 Decode; 8 White; 13 Postage; 15
Proper; 16 Brief; 17 Aspect; 20 Canto, OUICK
- Across: 1 Skilly; 4 Bridge; 9 Lackadaisical;
10 Strange; 11 Dumps; 12 Rebel; 14 Depot; 18
10 Strange; 11 Dumps; 12 Rebel; 14 Depot; 18
23 Kennel, Down: 1 Splash; 2 Incarceration;
3 Learn; 5 Residue; 6 Decomposition; 7 Enlist;
8 Waver; 13 Elegant; 15 Strand; 16 Gross; 17
Vessel; 20 Shine.

### Quiz

At which Oxford College did politician Roy Jenkins study?

14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

- Who became chairman of CND for the cond time in 1987?
- What nationality was painter El Lissitzky? What was playwright Jean Baptiste
- Poquelin better known as?
- Which British Labour politician was in the merchant navy from 1955-63?
- 6. Which composer's first film score was for Knight Without Armour in 1937?
- What was the comic strip Peanuts
- Who was Liberal MP for North Devon
- Whose first novel was Player Piano?

- originally called?
- 10. Which politician managed Gerald Ford's 1976 presidential campaign?

### Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Kingsley Amis; 2 Gabriel Axel;
- 3 John Blashford-Snell; 4 February 1st;
- 5 Italian: 6 Claudette Colbert: 7 The Boston

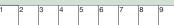
Strangler; 8 Stephen Foster; 9 North Carolina: 10 Flias Howe

Niner: DAUGHTERS

### Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters

> 91729 gives a composer, gives a singer, 374578 gives an instrument.





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EKO mente (beling) (b.La Blomberg BEKO











It's service with a smile and, above, a close-up of the Classic Combo



# Good food, friendly staff and now refurbed Pigot also has WOW factor

IT'S not just a pub, it's part of village life. Anyone who knows Pattingham will know the Pigot. Many couples who have grown-up children look back with affection and talk of the time they met up at the upstairs dis-

But this pub is not living in the past, as proved by the latest refurb which has definitely given it the wow factor.

Over the years we have seen various changes but this time it seems different. The Pigot repender ecently after a refurb inside and out. It looks fresher, more welcoming and has

The tooks ites in the wetcoming and has everything you could want in a pub.

There is a pool table and area where the younger customers can get together, space to enjoy a chat and a drink and catch up with sport on the large television, if you choose, and of course the impressive restaurant area. As you enter the Pigot you are greeted by a lovely open fireplace and the greeting is as warm

as the fire. And that, more importantly, is the big difference. Suddenly its popularity has really

taken off and not just because of its new look. Now at the helm is Stacey Wallace who has brought back the spark to this Stonegate pub, introducing various social activities to pack the pub with people from the village and further afar. And she is not afraid to roll up her sleeves, she can also take credit for the food as

sleeves, sne can also take credit for the food as she is a regular in the kitchen.

We popped in recently on a Saturday to celebrate my husband's birthday – I won't say how old he is but quite a few decades – and we were given a special long table so we could be all the state and the safe three little s be all together, eight adults and three little ones. They are used to catering for families and a kids menu is just £3.99 for a main and

dessert.

It was a Saturday afternoon but despite the It was a Saturnay atternion but despite the fact that we were quite a large party we did not feel we were infringing on anyone else's space. In fact there is plenty of seating in the restaurant which can cater for 55 covers. The food was served promptly and although it took a while for us all to decide what we wanted there were not them to were the server. there was no attempt to rush us.

and fish options, and for starters several tucked into their amazing sharing platters. I say amazing because they are enormous and come in two varieties, the Classic Combo at £11.29 which includes southern-fried-style chicken breast gou jons, chicken wings, wedges, onion rings, nachos, scampi, garlic bread and dips.

### Option

And for fish lovers - that's me - the Fish Deli Board at £10.79 has generous helpings of scampi, calamari, salmon and a pot of king prawns in a spicy Marie Rose sauce served with horseradish

spicy Marie Rose sauce served with horseradish cream and fresh tartare sauce, seeded granary, stone-baked ciabatta and lemon wedges.

They are also a wonderful option if you just want to pop in for a quick lunch or early tea. I can't talk about all the dishes, as there were so many of us, although I will say it went very quiet when we were eating, always a sign of good food. As far as mine was concerned I opted for the sole fillets – I did say I was a fish lover – which came with champagne and chive sauce, new potatoes and a selection of seasonal vegetables – tatoes and a selection of seasonal vegetables delicious! It was washed down by a bottle of their

wine with fish but I just had to break the rule as that Merlot is lovely and at only £10.75 a bottle

And as the plates were cleared away they arrived with a birthday cake from the kitchen. made by my lovely daughter and dropped off earlier. Needless to say the grandchildren were on hand to blow out the 'considerable' number of candles.

A lovely afternoon and catch up enjoyed by all the adults I am afraid stayed and drank a lot Later – made even better by the lovely food and pleasant service.

The pub also offers cask ales with regular guest ales from local breweries. There is a large

garden and seating areas front and back and a large car park. And just to give you an idea of what the customers think. Here are just two customer comments.

"They have done an awesome job of the refurb, really stylish and chilled out lovely staff, awesome food and one of the best pints around"
"The pub feels really classy and stylish, but maintains the feeling of a country village pub."
Well, you can't say better than that!



# CUSTOMERS **MOVING ADVERTISE**

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# **Modern three-bedroom** n convenient location



in Claremont Road. Penn Fields, is in a convenient position.

It is for sale through Jackson Lile &

It is for sale through Jackson Lile & Close at £158,500.

It has a fitted living kitchen/dining area with built-in double oven and grill, five-burner gas hob, cooker hood with extractor, dishwasher, washing machine, fridge and freezer, extending spice/larder unit and feature island.

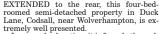
There is an attractive lounge with a polished granite fireplace with a flame-effect gas fire, three bedrooms, a deluxe bathroom with a polished granite fireplace with a flame-effect gas fire, three bedrooms, a deluxe bathroom with a polished granite fireplace with a flame-effect gas fire, three bedrooms, a deluxe bathroom with a

P-shaped bath with shower above and screen and chrome ladder radiator/towel rail. The front garden is lawned and there is drive-way parking, garage and wrought iron gates to

an attractive garden.
Contact 01902 712812 or visit www.jacksonli



# Extended home is well presented



EXTENDED to the rear, this four-bedroomed semi-detached property in Duck
Lane, Codsall, near Wolverhampton, is extremely well presented.

In a popular location, it is for sale through
DB Roberts & Partners at £224,950. The
home has been extended to the rear.

The ground floor accommodation briefly
comprises separate living, dining and
kitchen areas, as well as a conservatory that
opens out onto the rear garden.

The house also has off-road parking for
two vehicles via a fully block-paved frontage, double glazing and gas central heating
and a rear garden with terraces and lawn
and mature borders. Contact 01902 427257
or visit www.dbroberts.co.uk









# K. Stuart Swash

# **AUCTION - 22ND MARCH 2016**



# 1 CHURCHFIELD AVENUE, TIPTON Spacious three bedroomed Ground Floor Flat, Gas CH.,

Double Glazing, Hall, 15ft Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Separate W.C., allocated Parking. EPC = TBA

Guide: £28.000 / £33.000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 10.00 a.m.



15 LOWBRIDGE WALK, BILSTON
Access via Windsor Street.
Impressive Ground Floor Flat, immaculately presented, Hall, magnificent
21ft Living Area with fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, en-suite & large
Bathroom, allocated Parking space within gated grounds. EPC = C71
Guide: £93,000 / £98,000
VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 11.00 a.m.



### 33 FORTON CLOSE, COMPTON, WOLVERHAMPTON

Uniquely designed large modern Detached, Hall, 21ft Lounge, First Floor Dining Room / Lounge (18ft)., balcony, fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, spacious Bathroom, Gas CH., Utility Room / Workshop, Car Port, pleasant Gardens. EPC = E51

Guide: £185.000 / £195.000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 12.00 noon



### 80 FOWLER STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON

Mid Terraced, Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Rear Hall, Shower Room & Separate Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Rear Verandah, long Garden. EPC = E53

Guide: £69,000 / £74,000 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 9.45 a.m.



### 95 THE LINDENS, NEWBRIDGE WOLVERHÁMPTON

Well presented Ground Floor Flat. Communal entrance, Hall, Lounge, well proportioned Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, smart white Bathroom. Garage. EPC = D58  $Guide: \ \pounds55,000 / \ \pounds60,000$  VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 10.45 a.m.



### 20 GLYME DRIVE, TETTENHALL.

Detached Bungalow in prominent corner position, Double Glazing, CH., Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Car Port, Rear Garden. EPC = D63 Guide: £138,000 / £143,000

NOTE: Planning Permission granted for creation of Four 1 bed Flats. VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 11.45 a.m.

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# Three-bedroom family home semi with no chain

A THREE-BEDROOMED semi-detached property in a cul-de-sac at Watson Road, Fordhouses, Wolverhampton, is for sale through Skitts at £135,000 with no chain. With double glazing and gas central heating, it also has driveway parking.

The entrance hall has wooden flooring the control of the cont

with stairs off, there is a lounge with fea-ture fireplace and a door opening to the

garden and sliding doors to a dining room with a feature fireplace and a bay window.

The kitchen with tiled splashbacks, space for appliances and a door to the rear garden.

There are three bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs.

For further information contact Skitts



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# **Purpose-built first floor** cul-de-sac apartment is aimed at the over 55s





A PURPOSE-BUILT, first floor two-bedroomed flat within a cul-de-sac of flats and bungalows has been designed with older clientèle in mind. As such, 3 Waveney Avenue, Perton,

near Wolverhampton, can only be offered to people who are aged over 55. Within the heart of Perton, a short

walk away from amenities, it is for sale through Rees Page at £75,000 through

shared ownership.
Well presented and with double glazing and central heating, it is clean and spacious with a parking space and communal lawned gardens plus an area for drying

clothes.

The title is leasehold on a fixed shared ownership basis of 70/30 per cent al-though no additional rent is payable just simply a service charge.

For further information contact Rees Page on 01902 577775 or visit www.re



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### SEDGLEY RICHMOND ROAD









### **SEDGLEY** WILKES CROFT







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### SEDGLEY HIGH ARCAL DRIVE





£210,000





28

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### Rowley Regis, Portway Road

Well proportioned detached home at head of private drive having an outstanding conservatory with glass roof, gas radiator heating, double glazing, comprising: Porch, hall, cloakroom with w.c, pleasant lounge, separate dining room, attractive fitted kitchen with integral oven and hob, fitted utility, four good sized bedroomed, en suite shower room to bedroom 1, bathroom, garage, attractive garden extending to side. EPC C





### SEDGLEY, Warren Drive, Northway

Stylish, Freehold, gas centrally heated, double glazed link-detached with tremendous distant views comprising; hallway, cloakroom & further store, 26ft through living/dining room with doors out to garden, kitchen with an extensive range of units & various integrated appliances FOUR BEDROOMS (principal bedroom with en suite), bathroom. Carport, large garage, garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

### Offers in the region of £210,000



WALL HEATH, Brook Street

Overlooking fields, this SEMI-DETACHED TRADITIONAL HOUSE is outwardly deceptive of its size, having: Hall, Lounge 13'x13',Dining room 13'x12', feature 16' Kitchen, Utility, Elegant Bathroom, Two large Bedrooms plus Hobby/loft. Forecourt Parking and Gardens with SUNNY DISTANT VIEWS. EPC E

£185,950



### KINGSWINFORD, Broadmeadow

Enjoying a generous corner position, overlooking an attractive green upon 'Blandford Mere', this SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED, NOW UNBELIEVABLY SPACIOUS, THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE offers a very versatile layout including a POTENTIAL GROUND FLOOR SELF CONTAINED GRANNY/ TÉENAGER ANNEX, Conservatory and a level attractively laid out rear garden with DRIVEWAY / GARAGE to the rear. EPC D

New price £189,950



Netherton, Church Road

This BAY FRONTED & EXTENDED, SEMI-DETACHED HOME comprises: Hall, Attractive Sitting Room, Additional Pleasant Living Room, SPLENDID KITCHEN Diner, THREE BEDROOMS, Sensational Shower Room, Driveway, Garage & Tremendous Rear Garden. EPC:





### **UPPER GORNAL, Board School Gardens**

ENVIABLY SITUATED IN QUIET "BACKWATER"! Tremendously improved, gas centrally heated (recent boiler), double glazed semi detached at head of cul-de-sac within walking distance of so many amenities comprising; hall, lounge, kitchen, shower room. Two double bedrooms (both with built in wardrobes). Double glazed conservatory. 'low maintenance' gardens, GARAGE with lengthy drive. EPC: T.B.A. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £170,000



### Netherton, Hockley Lane

'Yew Tree Rise' is an EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION of SEVEN LUXURY 'NEW BUILD' 3 & 4 BEDROOM HOMES by respected local developers HORGAN HOMES and includes both SEMI DETACHED AND DETACHED FAMILY HOMES. Thoughtfully designed and WELL APPOINTED. EPC: TBC



### Netherton, Quarry Road

DOUBLE FRONTED & SPACIOUS, EXTENDED, TWO / THREE BEDROOM, DETACHED BUNGALOW comprising: Hall, Lounge, Further Reception Room / Bedroom 3, Extended Kitchen, TWO FURTHER DOUBLE BEDROOMS, Bathroom, Driveway, Car Port, Garage, Rear Garden. EPC:



### WALL HEATH, Victoria Street

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£165,000 £164,950 £162,000

# **Modern three-bedroom** n convenient location



in Claremont Road. Penn Fields, is in a convenient position.

It is for sale through Jackson Lile &

It is for sale through Jackson Lile & Close at £158,500.

It has a fitted living kitchen/dining area with built-in double oven and grill, five-burner gas hob, cooker hood with extractor, dishwasher, washing machine, fridge and freezer, extending spice/larder unit and feature island.

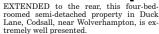
There is an attractive lounge with a polished granite fireplace with a flame-effect gas fire, three bedrooms, a deluxe bathroom with a polished granite fireplace with a flame-effect gas fire, three bedrooms, a deluxe bathroom with a polished granite fireplace with a flame-effect gas fire, three bedrooms, a deluxe bathroom with a

P-shaped bath with shower above and screen and chrome ladder radiator/towel rail. The front garden is lawned and there is drive-way parking, garage and wrought iron gates to

an attractive garden.
Contact 01902 712812 or visit www.jacksonli



# Extended home is well presented



EXTENDED to the rear, this four-bedroomed semi-detached property in Duck
Lane, Codsall, near Wolverhampton, is extremely well presented.

In a popular location, it is for sale through
DB Roberts & Partners at £224,950. The
home has been extended to the rear.

The ground floor accommodation briefly
comprises separate living, dining and
kitchen areas, as well as a conservatory that
opens out onto the rear garden.

The house also has off-road parking for
two vehicles via a fully block-paved frontage, double glazing and gas central heating
and a rear garden with terraces and lawn
and mature borders. Contact 01902 427257
or visit www.dbroberts.co.uk









# K. Stuart Swash

# **AUCTION - 22ND MARCH 2016**



# 1 CHURCHFIELD AVENUE, TIPTON Spacious three bedroomed Ground Floor Flat, Gas CH.,

Double Glazing, Hall, 15ft Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Separate W.C., allocated Parking. EPC = TBA

Guide: £28.000 / £33.000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 10.00 a.m.



15 LOWBRIDGE WALK, BILSTON
Access via Windsor Street.
Impressive Ground Floor Flat, immaculately presented, Hall, magnificent
21ft Living Area with fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, en-suite & large
Bathroom, allocated Parking space within gated grounds. EPC = C71
Guide: £93,000 / £98,000
VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 11.00 a.m.



### 33 FORTON CLOSE, COMPTON, WOLVERHAMPTON

Uniquely designed large modern Detached, Hall, 21ft Lounge, First Floor Dining Room / Lounge (18ft)., balcony, fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, spacious Bathroom, Gas CH., Utility Room / Workshop, Car Port, pleasant Gardens. EPC = E51

Guide: £185.000 / £195.000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 12.00 noon



### 80 FOWLER STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON

Mid Terraced, Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Rear Hall, Shower Room & Separate Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Rear Verandah, long Garden. EPC = E53 Guide: £69,000 / £74,000 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 9.45 a.m.



### 95 THE LINDENS, NEWBRIDGE WOLVERHÁMPTON

Well presented Ground Floor Flat. Communal entrance, Hall, Lounge, well proportioned Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, smart white Bathroom. Garage. EPC = D58  $Guide: \ \pounds55,000 / \ \pounds60,000$  VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 10.45 a.m.



### 20 GLYME DRIVE, TETTENHALL.

Detached Bungalow in prominent corner position, Double Glazing, CH., Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Car Port, Rear Garden. EPC = D63 Guide: £138,000 / £143,000

NOTE: Planning Permission granted for creation of Four 1 bed Flats. VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4th & 5th MARCH @ 11.45 a.m.

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### **TIVIDALE** Aston Road



A beautifully presented extended modernised extended modernised semi-detached family home in this popular location. Having off-road parking to the front for two vehicles, With entrance hall with stairs to first floor and door

room to the front, and two further double bedrooms off the landing, with a shower/WC centrally. To the rear there are steps to the paved patio area and further steps to a lawned area. Freehold - viewing is highly recommended. EPC-D

£134,995

### TIPTON Flizabeth Walk



£135,900

### DUDLEY Russells Hall Road



### DUDLEY Scotts Green Close



£127,950 £175,000

## **GORNAL**



splendid, character-illed, tastefully enovated and extended family home n a popular location Entrance hall (ful ength) leads to lounge ength) leads to lounge at the front, and cottage-style kitcher on the first floor lead

bedrooms, converted loft space and en-suite shower/WC with three yelux windows. Lawned area to the rear. Viewing highly recommended, freehold. EPC-TBC

£169,995

### **New Birmingham Road** Tividale



A fabulous and well presented three bedroom detached home The house benefits from a spacious through lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, Garage which is currently converted to a utility room. Having a modern and attractive farmily bathroom and three bedrooms. Also having a wonderful and well established rear garden. Driveway to the front providing ample off road parking.

£199,995 Tipton

Jubilee Road

£170,000

peworksnop, on the first noor there is master becroom with w bathroom/WC with shower over the bath and further dressi sed bedrooms, family bathroom/WC, SECURE off road parki enance gardens. The property comes with security cameras a art o Tiption TRAIN STATION and Outstanding primary and se

### WOLLASTON. WOLLASTON Bridgnorth Road Apley Road



Walking distance of local shops an

£199,950 NETHERTON

Quayside Walk

£104,950

## **TIPTON**



£270,00 UPPER GORNAL

Green Lane

£129,950

## Thunderbolt Way



uble glazing and central heating, secur phone access, having a good-sized lou-ing room, modern fitted kitchen with int en and hob, double bedroom with bu nended. EPC TBC

£79,950

## WEDNESBURY



apartment offered as a 50% share, This well presented two bedroom home must be viewed. With fitted kitchen, open plan lounge/diner, bath-room and parking. EPC - TBC

£45,000

# SEDGLEY Gospel End Street





SATURDAY 5th MARCH ●● 2-4PM ●●

This property is available for viewing without an appointment necessary 14 Gospel End Street, Sedgley, DY3 3LS



An OUTSTANDING and delightful mid terraced style cottage which offers original character features. Having two bedrooms and walking distance to Sedgley Village, Being tastefully decorated and presented to a high standard. EPC-D

£149,950



# Marking 100 years of Isuzu

flagship model of the multi-award winning pick-up range - is getting a centennial Venetian Red paint finish as part of the celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary since the company first set up operations in Tokyo, Japan. The glowing red colour scheme will be limited to 100 D-Max Blade pick-up vehi-

The vibrant Venetian Red colour will leave a lasting impression as it takes hints from the same shade of red consistently used by Isuzu throughout the brand's history. The top-of-the-range double-cab Blade is available from just £25,999 in manual transmission and

the eye-catching Venetian Red finish comes at no extra cost. The Blade. which has been a big hit since it was launched in 2014, is already available in Cosmic Black or Pearlescent White.
The D-Max Blade range-topper

comes with a host of extra features and quality interior appointments for a pre-mium level of comfort and refinement, including superior leather upholstery, 18-inch Shadow alloy wheels and choice of Black Mountain Top Roller Cover with Black Rear Style Bar or Col-our Coded Aeroklas Leisure Canopy.

At the heart of the Blade remains the powerful-vet-efficient 2.5-litre twin-turbo diesel engine, producing 163 PS and 400 Nm of torque. Isuzu's advanced power unit returns a highly im-

pressive fuel economy of 38.7 mpg on a combined cycle.

Owners also benefit from a heavy-weight towing capacity of 3.5 tonnes (braked trailer) and 1,072 kg (manual) / 1,067 kg (auto) payload.

Isuzu entered its centenary year on a rich vein of form, as the longest-running Japanese car manufacturer continues to break sales records in the UK. With 6,220 vehicle registrations in 2015, Isuzu UK made a 13 per cent year-on-year improvement while also recording a 478 per cent sales boost compared to five years ago. Further model news is

expected later in the year.

Every new D-Max sold in the UK is backed by the company's pioneering, five-year / 125,000-mile warranty.

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35k, White with Black Hood, Alloys, CD, E/Windows, E/Hood

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09/58 Volkswagen Beetle 1.6 Sola Convertible \*TOP SPEC\* 69K, Silver, Red Electric Hood, Red Leather,

£6995 / £36 Per Week

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06/56 Toyota Rav-4 XT4 D-4D 2.2 Diesel 4WD

5dr, 75k, SiÍver, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows, E/Sunroof

£6795 / £35 Per Week

£6995 / £36 Per Week

£7995 / £42 Per Week

£9995 / £51 Per Week

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09/59 Mini Cooper Diesel

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£5495 / £28 Per Week



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04/54 Mercedes C180K Avantgarde SE 4dr Automatic, 76k, Silver, Alloys, Half Leather, Air Con, CD, E/Windows £3995 / £23 Per Week



04/04 Mercedes C220 CDI Diesel SE 3dr Automatic Coupe, 77k, Silver, Panoramic Roof, Alloys, Grey Leather, CD, Air-Con, E/Windows 3995 / £23 Per Week



08/08 Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Diesel Edge 5dr [140] Automatic, 118k, Blue, Air Con, CD, E/Windows 3695 / £20 Per Week



07/07 Citroen Xsara Picasso VTX 1.6 HDI Diesel, 59k, Beige, Alloys, Air con, CD, E/windows, Panoramic Sunroof £3695 / £20 Per Week



09/59 Citroen C3 1.1 First 43k, Black, Air Con, CD, E/Windows, Ideal 1st Car £2995 / £16 Per Week

Finance example: 05/05 Nissan X-trail 2.2 dCi, Cash Price £3495, Deposit 300, Amount of credit £3195, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 11.8% Apr, 60 Payments of £69.90 (£16.13 per week) Total amount payable £4793.44 (Includes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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KIA PICANTO 1.0 SR7 3 DOOR HATCHBACK

£8,845

NO DEPOSIT PLUS £500 Manufacturer deposit Contribution

Personal Contract Purchase Representative Example: Kia Picanto 1.0 SR7 3 door hatchback

Cash price of car	£8,845.00
Customer deposit	£0
Kia deposit contribution	£500.00
Amount of credit	£8,345.00
Total charge for credit	£0
Representative	0% APR

1 monthly payment	£192.21
23 monthly payments	£192.23
One final payment (GFV)	£3,731.50
Total amount payable	£8,845.00
Duration of agreement (months)	25
Selected annual mileage	6,000
Excess mileage charge 1	14.9p per mile





£16,265

NO CUSTOMER DEPOSIT

Personal Contract Purchase Example: Kia Sportage 1.6 GDi '1

Cash price of car	£16,265.00
Customer deposit	£0
Amount of credit	£16,265.00
Total charge for credit	£1,775.58
Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	2.52%
Annual percentage rate	4.9%

36 monthly payments	£290.28
One final payment (GFV)	£7,590.50
Total amount payable	£18,040.58
Duration of agreement (months	37
Selected annual mileage	6,000
Excess mileage charge	14.9p per mile



£28,795

£1,250 Manufacturer deposit Contribution



Personal Contract Purchase Example: Kia Sorento 2.2 CRDi KX

Cash price of car	£28,795.00
Customer deposit	£0
Kia deposit contribution	£1,250.00
Amount of credit	£27,545.00
Total charge for credit	£4,192.91
Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	2.52%
Annual percentage rate	4.9%

36 monthly payments	£514.56
One final payment (GFV)	£11,963.75
Total amount payable	£31,737.91
Duration of agreement (months)	37
Selected annual mileage	6,000
Excess mileage charge	14.9p per mile

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# Skoda is electrifying the Geneva motor show with VisionS concept car

Skoda continues to grow: Over recent years, the brand has fundamentally expanded and renewed its model range. Now, Skoda's SUV range is being strengthened.

With the Skoda VisionS, the Czech car manufacturer gives an insight into how Skoda's future SUV design language might look. The brand also presents its most important future technologies with the show car. The new Skoda Octavia vRS 4×4, the Skoda Octavia G-TEC with DSG transmission and the ScoutLine version of the Fabia Estate round off Skoda's appearance at Lac Léman.

The Skoda VisionS incorporates the brand's new design language, carrying it over into the SUV segment: the design is clearly influenced by Czech Cubism and the tradition of Bohemian crystal art.

The lines are precise, sharp and clean-cut; the distinctive interplay of light and shadow on the contoured surfaces creates exciting effects, which are accentuated by the Island-Green color

With a 2.79-meter wheelbase, at 4.70 meters long, 1.91 meters wide and 1.68 meters tall, the Skoda VisionS makes a bold statement on the road.

### Highlight

Based on the Volkswagen Group's Modular Transverse Matrix (MQB), this is Skoda's first vehicle to feature six seats across three rows.

Another highlight of the concept vehicle is its plug-in hybrid powertrain: with 165 kW (225 hp), the show car accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in 7.4 seconds with a top speed of almost 200 km/h. 1.9 litres of petrol is all the car needs to travel 100 km (45 grams CO2 per kilometre). The Skoda VisionScan go up to 50 km on electric alone, and will travel up to 1000 km with both systems. The internal combustion engine is a 1.4 TSI with 115 kW

(156 hp) and 250 Nm of torque. This works alongside an e-motor that provides 40 kW of 40 kW continuous power and 220 Nm peak torque.

It is integrated into the six-speed DSG, which directs the power to the front wheels. A second electric motor with up to 85 kW and 270 Nm of torque drives the rear axle. This works independently of the front axle drive, meaning the show car has a smart four-wheel drive, which requires no mechanical

The three engines cooperate in a highly flexible manner. The driver of the Skoda VisionS can choose between several modes of operation – from purely electric drive to charge modes, always with the goal of maximum efficiency. The lithium-ion battery with a 12.4kWh capacity is positioned in front of the rear axle.

Skoda has responded to the rapidly growing scope of in-

formation and the passengers' desire to communicate by introducing automotive digital networking (mobile services), providing large displays for optimum vehicle and infotainment services for all passengers, who can connect to the network several ways from each seat in the vehicle.

The Skoda Octavia vRS 4×4 will also be celebrating its debut at this year's motor show: Skoda's top-of-the-range Octavia is available as a saloon or estate with the 2.0 TDI engine with 135 kW (184 PS) and DSG transmission. With a drive unit, which is both sporty and safe, the Octavia vRS  $4\!\times\!4$  makes a strong partner for families, work and leisure. The car accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in 7.6 seconds and reaches a top speed of 228 km/h.

In NEDC, the model will manage 4.9 litre diesel per 100 km; CO2 equivalent of 129 grams per km (all values for se-

dan).
The Skoda Octavia G-TEC is particularly economical: It currently costs less than four euros in fuel to drive this model 100 km. On request, Skoda can fit the natural-gas car with DSG transmission.

The 1.4 TSI provides 81 kW (110 hp) per km, emits less than 100 grams of CO2. The 1.4 TSI provides 81 kW (110 hp), emitting less than 100 grams of CO2 per km.

The Skoda Octavia G-TEC is available in saloon and es-

tate versions.
Skoda's ScoutLine range also continues to grow. Alongside the Rapid Spaceback ScoutLine, there is now the SkodaFabia Estate ScoutLine – with its unique off-road look and attractive, practical equipment features.

Three petrol engines with 55 kW (75 hp), 66 kW (90 hp)

and 81 kW (110 hp) and three diesel engines with 55 kW (75 hp), 66 kW (90 hp) and 77 kW (105 hp) are available





# Production of the latest Astra model starts in UK

Vauxhall and sister company Opel celebrated the official start of Astra Sports Tourer production at its plant in Ellesmere Port.

The first vehicle to roll off the production line in Cheshire was an Elite 1.6CDTi, in Flip Chip Silver.

Jubilant plant workers were joined by Peter Thom, General Motors' vice president global manufacturing and Stefan Fesser, Ellesmere Port plant director.

Thom was visiting to hand over the 2015 Winner for Safety award, won by the plant. Fesser also collected 2015 Winner for Vauxhall/Opel Astra Hatchback Launch awarded by Jim Deluca, Executive Vice President and Thom. Thanks to the outstanding attitude and work ethic of the employees, the plant beat world-class competition from across Europe to build the new car.

The Ellesmere Port Plant is a significant contributor to the local and national economies building over five million vehicles since 1964. The factory is a major exporter with 52 per cent of production going to 25 European markets. At full production it is estimated the plant will build around 680 cars per day and 120,000 per year.

cars per day and 120,000 per year.

UK firms, including those in manufacturing, utilities, construction, transportation and storage, benefit from almost £70 million gross value added directly from Vauxhall's investment in Ellesmere Port.

"This first Astra Sports Tourer marks another milestone

"This first Astra Sports Tourer marks another milestone in the great history of Vauxhall manufacturing in the North-West," said Rory Harvey, Vauxhall's chairman and managing director. The all-new Astra is of critical importance to Vauxhall and its manufacturing facility in Ellesmere Port. I'm very proud of the men and women who build this vehicle to world class levels of quality and productivity."

### Lightweight

Like its five-door hatch sibling, the Sports Tourer is based on an all-new lightweight vehicle architecture with a new design, powertrains and technology.

The Sports Tourer further extends the dynamic lines of the five-door. The slightly arched sloping roofline gives the Sports Tourer a longer appearance, an effect that is further enhanced by the divided C-pillar.

chanced by the divided C-pillar.

The rear view combines high functionality with elegant design. The Sports Tourer has a stable, robust and safe stance, the muscular rear-wheel arch contours and the divided rear light clusters add to this impression.

vided rear light clusters add to this impression.
The latest generation Sports Tourer has the same dimensions as the outgoing model with a length of 4,702mm, a width of 1,871mm (with exterior mirrors folded in) and a height of 1,499mm – however, it offers much more space for passengers and luggage.

passengers and luggage.

The driver can enjoy 26mm of additional headroom, passengers in the rear have 28mm more, providing more space and comfort. The Sports Tourer's total cargo capacity is now 1,630 litres, thanks to more efficient packaging.

The powertrain portfolio features petrol and diesel units ranging from 100PS to 200PS, including an all-new 1.4-li-tre (150PS) ECOTEC Direct Injection Turbo and the recent-ly-launched 1.6-litre CDTi Whisper Diesel. The 200PS version of the 1.6-litre ECOTEC petrol will celebrate its world premiere at Frankfurt.

Depending on the model and trim level it is up to 200kg

Depending on the model and trim level it is up to 200kg lighter than its predecessor. The completely new vehicle architecture plays a major role in the weight reduction. Every component was checked for compact design and light-weight materials. The body shell weight alone was reduced by 20 per cent from 357k to 280kg.

to the potential was checked for compact design and lightweight materials. The body shell weight alone was reduced by 20 per cent from 357kg to 280kg. The Astra Sports Tourer also features OnStar, the ground-breaking connectivity technology now available across Europe. OnStar includes high-speed 4G LTE mobile network, emergency response notification and stolen vehicle recovery alert.

The Sports Tourer is also one of the first vehicles from a mainstream manufacturer to get Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, available through a new version of the IntelliLink info-tainment system





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Fuel consumption in MPG (I/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) - 78.5 (3.6), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) - 80.7 (3.5), Combined 32.1 (8.8) - 76.3 (3.7), CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 231 - 84 g/km. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results.

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what's on

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Home & Services

furniture

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It is an offence under the Gas
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SUZUKI JIMNY JEEP 2004, 1328cc, petrol, 4WD, black and silver, 60,000 miles, MoT October, tow bar, spare wheel, cherished plate, good condition. £2,750. 01691 791544/07980 850051.

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Email: office@st-iohns-swindon.staffs.sch.uk Closing date: Friday 18 March, 2016. Interviews: Tuesday, 22 March 2016.



RENAULT MEGANE October 2011 1600cc, petrol, red, MoT till Sep-tember, excellent condition, 14,700 miles, £5,250 ono. 07938 661821.

TOYOTA RAV4 3dr, 54 reg, black with grey interior, service history £2,795. 01562 710289.

VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN
1.6 petrol, 2006, 5-dr, half leather interior, 12 months Mot, FSH, very nice spec, 93,000 miles, very clean and reliable. £1,990, 07933 332936.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 Club, 58 reg, 59,000 miles, blue, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alloys, very good condition £1,899 07879 403302.



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Excellent condition, very economical. £30 a year tax, MoT September, alloy wheels.

£6,750.

## Telephone 01691 791544

or 07980 850051 VW FOX 09, 53,000 miles, 12 months MoT, immaculate, ir yellow, lady owner, £2,495 ovno 01384 565140 or 07761 091577.

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CHEVROLET LACETTI, January 2008, 5 door, silver, 46,552 miles, 8 months MoT, £500 ono. 07854 938883 or 07398 991971.

CITROEN PICASSO TD, SX, MPV TB, 03, full MoT, FSH, immaculate condition, £875, 07469 847937.

FORD FIESTA 1.25, 2004, 5 door 89,300 miles, CD, blue, fsh, MoT heated screen, Goodyear tyres Clean. Must be seen. £1,195 ono. 07525 046948.

FORD FOCUS 1.8 Ghia, diese reg, long MoT, FSH, good cr tion. £900 ono. 07903 177567.

FORD MONDEO 2 litre LX 02, A/C CD, alloys, good condition, MoT June 2016, serviced, 2 owners, 49k miles, £875 ovno, 07887 593617.

MAZDA 323I 1997, 6 months MoT

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VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8SRI 2007, 9,000 miles, grey, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, cruise control, pas, alloys, CD.

pas, alloys, CD £3,500 ono. 07425 136504



VW GOLF 04, 1.4FSi, black, low miles, careful lady owner, well looked after, excellent condition, genuine sale, £3,500. 07739 730090.

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FORD FIESTA 1.6TDCi, 06 reg silver 3 door, 10 months MoT excellent condition, £995. Telephone 07498 131071.

FORD MONDEO ESTATE, 2005, 60 000 miles only. 2 litre Zetec 60,000 miles only. 2 litre Z petrol. Excellent condition owners. Silver. CD, air con, £1,495. 01902 764170.

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£650. Call 07977 409132 after 5pm.

SKODA OCTAVIA Saloon, 1.9 Turbo Diesel, 53 plate, 77,000 miles, AC, EW, £1,500. 50+mpg. 07847 008018.

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VW PASSAT Estate, 2.0 petrol, 02 reg, 67k, MoT, FSH, EW, £995 ono. 01902 470560.

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The record of this application may The record of this application may be inspected Monday to Friday (except bank holidays) by prior appointments licensing services unit 1 Narrowboat way hurst business park, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 1UF.

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Customer Service between the hours of 10am - 4pm, Information on all new and variation applications received by the licensing authority can be viewed on the council website. www.dudley.gov.uk
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420791 JENNI, hairdresser, brunette, caring and fun. WLTM chap any age, must be discreet with car, I have a nice home to meet in. Text only Box: 4139156

ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420729 🗒

46YR old Asian lady looking for

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3002 Box 419673

TRISH. 45. tall slim young/good TRISH, 45, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTM male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421137

LOUISE 35, loves meals out, WLTM tallish, considerate mature male who is not frightened to express themselves and enjoy life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421135

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: No: 0906 515 3010 Box:

haired feminine lady who enjoys walking and keeping fit, seeking lonely kind gentleman for good times and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421115

LUCY first time advertiser, 32yrs

MARGARET 39, dark hair/eyed attractive petite divorcee, new to area and looking to start a new life, WLTM child friendly male. single dad welcome. Tel 0906 500 3955 Box 421129

Tel: 0906 515 3018 Box:

ANNA, 41, new to single life seeking caring professional male for no strings fun, attention and laughter. Life is too short, lets enjoy it! Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421127

# BEV 30yr old curvy attractive emale, likes music, travel, animals, cosy nights in front of a log fire, looking for affectionate male for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420715

SUE, 46, confident professional, sporty/active, seeking sensitive interesting guy for intimate evenings in with great food and conversations. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420701

CAROLINE, 42yrs, slim attractive blonde, varied interests and solvent, WLTM honest male

CHRIS, 67, brunette, cuddly, WLTM caring, kind gentleman, for days out, meals out, walks etc and for just being together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420667

LILY, genuine lady looking for a genuine man. I like cosy nights in and am a smoker. Text only mailbox no: 5372466

TRISH, 44, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTM male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420601 8

MADDIE extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420563 🗎

CHRIS, 40, attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. Tel No: 9906 500 3955 Box No: 420491 SALLY, 46, slim attractive feisty

redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTM similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420475 ∰ 420475 ₺ LOUISE, 47, youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420445 ₺

420445 ∯
ALEXA 49 - slim, attractive, long-haired music loving female, with many interests including dining out, the arts, photography WLTM similar male. Text only to Mailbox no: 5345662

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420359 🗒

420359 KAREN, curvy brunette, 42yrs loves men of all ages and sizes but must make me laugh .1 am married with open marriage. Text only Box: 4020257

Only Box: 402/267

JULIE, 47, blonde brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, loves cuddling, kissing and showing affection, seeks similar energetic male friend for TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420357 ₿

420357 ∄

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985 ∄

SAMANTHA pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a real lust for

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to m someone to share fun times with.
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420269 ₿

420269 ∰
48 year old, slim, green eyed female, n/s, likes meals out, local theatre, live local bands, nights in, looking for a gentleman, 48-52, for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420839 ∰

FEMALE, 37, new to area, would like to meet nice trustworthy man, for friendship hopefully more. Text only to mailbox: 5202585 5392585 5392585

CAROL 37 attractive slim blonde, curves in all the right places, nice personality, good company, looking for caring man for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420757 ₿

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship.

Age/looks/Status unimportant.

Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTM male for mutual companionship Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420195

A20195 ∰
CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No. 1906 500 3955 Box No: 420175 ∰ TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTM very appreciative confident male for adult fun.

Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414701 FEMALE, dark haired 5'10, curvy, likes reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 for

asting relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 5077545 PROFESSIONAL black female age 52, enjoys evenings and days out, would like to meet similar Midlands male. Text only to Mailbox no: 5315901

ANN,38, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTM similar kind male with a lot of get up and go for romance and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420355 🗎

JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl. call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418169

Sun 3955 Box No: a18169 g SARAH, curvaceous brunette, 35, passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTM date again, looking for male to take me out. Looks/Age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420207 ₿

### Single Men

CARING male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

MALE 63 N/S honest GSOH car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817

GENUINE male, 58, OHAC, looking for fun lady for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417601 PHIL 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414991

Box No: 414991

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709 8

418709 ∰
WAYNE, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419829

DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809 €

MALE, 59, 5ft2, average build, looking for a genuine, caring lady, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421089

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old male, slim, dark hair, likes music, bike rides and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235 GRAHAM, 50s, 5ft10, blue eyes very smart, OHAC, solvent

ATTRACTIVE male, 54, seeks very smart, OHAC, solvent, smoker, WLTM a very feminine, sensual, high heels lady, 36-52, for romantic evenings out and holidays, South Cheshire, Staffs, ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421103

MALE, 63, caring, easygoing, MALE, 63, caring, easygoing, N/S seeks female 50-70 for friendship and romance. Looks unimportant. Likes occasional drink, eating in/out, cinema and driving. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418893

STEVEN, 39, caring and clean, looking for female for fun, laughter and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420861 🗒

MALE, 46, slim, WLTM a lady to settle me down, if that's you please get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420853 🗎

62yr old professional male seeks female 55-70, curvy and feminine, for fun, laughter and relationship. Text only to mailbox: 4435871 TREVOR 45, likes cinema, going out, some quiet nights in and looking for someone with similar

s. Text only to mailbox: 5392042 COLIN 48, loving, kind, seeks loving kind caring cuddly lady 48 loving kind caring cuddly lady 48 to 54 for LTR, love and romance.

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MALE 51, seeks lady and pamper. Tel No: 3955 Box No: 313191

MALE 55, stocky, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407741

MALE 57, seeking female, any age/looks for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416779 TOBY. looking for a responsible lady, 30-50, sensible with money, loving, passionate, romantic, single mum of one welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

MALE, 59, 5ft2, average build seeks genuine, caring, lady, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420721

JOSEPH attractive Asian male. seeking attractive, genuine female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267

HANDSOME, attractive, fit, Indian, professional trucker, 38, WLTM attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790

dom female 40 to 70 for adult fun, any status or size only to mailbox: 4347071 MATURE male, 6ft, slim, fit, clean and smart, residing in central Birmingham, seeks slimish female for fun times. Text only to mailbox: 5383053

MAN 55yrs, 6ft med build, single looking for a special lady to share no strings fun and good times Age/status unimportant. Text only to mailbox: 5381487

MALE 63, N/S, GSOH, genuine, caring, likes music, travel, meals out, casual drink, seeks female, 50-70 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416997

PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: WALSALL male looking for lady for no strings adult fun on a regular basis, within 10 miles of Walsall is preferred but not

essential, age/looks unimportant.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420873 STEVE 58 yrs, 6ft, average build, seeking woman for NSA mutual pleasure, marital status unimportant. Text only to mailbox: 5400701

YOUNG at heart lonely 55yr old male, 5ft 10, medium build, n/s, GSOH, loyal, looking for a female for adult fun time, possible LTR. Text only to mailbox: 5321154

MARK, 44, very interesting maHK, 44, very interesting person, own business, sporty, honest and genuine, likes nights out, meals out, cinema, country walks, WLTM a lady for friendship and good company leading to a permanent relationship. Tel No: 9906 500 3955 Box No: 420841

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nurse, 48, OHAC, WLTM cnilu friendly male/single dad for dates, chats, laughter and more. Any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421111 8

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ANGELA, 42, green eyed dark

tall slim blonde airline worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. Tel: 0906 515 3026 Box: 420237

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult

KAREN, 42yrs, attractive and broadminded, seeks no strings

ANNA. 41 new to single life

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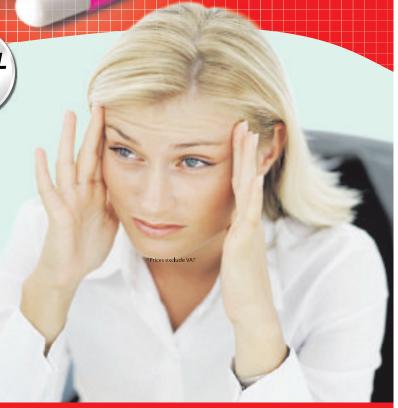
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# Police slip behind pace after defeat to Hotshots

DEFENDING Stourbridge & Dis-trict Snowker League Premier Di-vision champions Norton Social A increased their lead at the top with a 4-1 victory at Pockets SC. Meanwhile, their closest rivals, West Midlands Police slipped up 3-2 at home to Hotshots SC A and

3-2 at home to Hotshots SC A and trail the leaders by nine points.

Brandhall Labour Club led 2-0 but were pulled back thanks to teenagers Macauley Gunn and Tom Pepperall. But in the decider, Bal Sembi stroked home an impressive 107 break to clinch the win for Brandhall.

win for Brandhall.
First Division leaders Kinver
Constitutional B suffered backto-back league defeats, this latest
3-2 at home to their closest rivals,
Kingswinford Cons B, but, with
three matches left, they still hold
a nine point cushion.
Kingswinford Cons A are two
points further away in third after
a 3-2 win against Moor Pool &
Snooker B. Amblecote Inst B
climbed above Wombourne after a
3-2 win on their rivals' tables.

Shooker B. Ambiecote first b schimbed above Wombourne after a 3-2 win on their rivals' tables. With division two leaders Stourbridge Old Edwardians not playing, Amblecote RBL B narrowed the gap to seven points, overcoming a 2-0 deficit to beat Kingswinford Cons D. Kingswinford Cons C maintained the pressure with a 4-1 win away to Stourbridge Inst C. Results: Premier Division: Brandhall Labour 3 Pockets SC B 4 Superiner Division: Brandhall Labour 3 Pockets SC B 4 Superiner Division: Brandhall Labour 3 Pockets SC B 4 Raggeridge Social 1; Pockets SC B 4 Raggeridge Scotal 1; Pockets SC B 4 Raggeridge Gostal 1; Pockets SC B 4 Raggeridge Gostal 1; Pockets SC B 4; Ringswinford Cons B 3; Stourbridge Inst A 5 Kinver Const A 0; Kingswinford Cons A 3 Moor Pool & Snooker C 1 Kinver Const C 4; Norton Social B 3 Stourbridge Inst B 2.

Second Division: Kingswinford Cons D 2 Amblecote RBL B 3; Stourbridge Inst C 1; Kingswinford Cons C 4, Monlecote Inst B 3; A 5 Amblecote RBL B 3; Stourbridge Inst C 1; Kingswinford Cons D 4, Amblecote RBL C 3 Kingswinford Cons D 4, Amblecote RBL C 3; Kingswinford Cons D 4, Amblecote RBL C

# Tivi point to a clean sheet for another draw

Tividale 0 Stocksbridge Park 0 A FIRST clean sheet but only a point – Tividale's 11th draw of the season

- Tividale's 11th draw of the season would definitely have been on last if filmed for Match of the Day.
Steels had a let-off within seconds of the kick-off, Jason Chilton's cross forcing visiting keeper Dave Reay into frantic back-pedalling before he ball pinged off the bar.
That apart, neither keeper was unduly troubled in the first period.
The second half was a little better. Tividale keeper Tom Turner got down well to save from Scott Ruth-

ter. In tight experies from Turner got down well to save from Scott Ruthven and with just five minutes to go produced a fine save to deny Steels substitute Brodie Litchfield.

Stocksbridge may feel they were upfortunate out to be awarded on

unfortunate not to be awarded an injury time penalty when Tividale defender Luke Wright appeared to have handled on the line.

# **Pupils serve up more success**



Simon Baggott with the successful squads

up more success as they took home two silver medals in the Black

The boys' Key Stage four team made the final but were unable to power past Walsall's Streetly Academy at the University of Wolverhampton, Walsall campus.

The Key Stage three and four girls slipped to defeat to Wolverhampton Girls High. The youngsters had qualified for the Games and the

Schools Championship after sweep-ing the board by claiming golds at the Dudley Schools finals. That success extended the school's unbeaten run in the borough to 10 years.

The championships culminate in a national finals weekend, hosted at the National Badminton Centre in Milton Keynes.

School head Bronwyn Hedley said: "This is a very proud moment for not only all students and staff here at The Kingswinford School

but also the borough of Dudley and the Black Country.

"The school has gone from strength to strength since achieving the prestigious status of becoming an England Badminton Academy School in 2006."

Simon Baggott, coach and school governor, added: "To be officially ranked as one of the most successful schools in the country is an achievement that all governors, staff and students here at The Kingswinford School are extremely proud of."

# Sam the man claims Best Boxer accolade

gears up for his British and Commonwealth title defence next week after adding the Best Boxer accolade to his stash.

nis stasn.

The 22-year-old welterweight walked off with the top gong at the British Boxing Board of Control's Midlands Area awards.

The Savage' will defend his belts against mandatory challenger Bradley Skeete at the Genting



page. Eggington beat off Eggington beat off competition from Der-by's Dave Ryan, who won the Commonwealth light middleweight title, and Leicester's English super middleweight champion Jahmaine

Smyle.

Eggington with award Lincoln's Bobby Jenkinson won Best Young Boxer, ahead of his Commonwealth super bantamweight title defence against Gamal Yafai on

tamweight title defence against Gamal Yafai on the Genting bill.

Also nominated were Corby's Simon Barclay, signed to promoter Frank Warren, and Nottinghamshire flyweight Jamie Williams.

Luke Paddock's ding-dong with nemesis Andy Keates for the Midlands light welterweight title won Best Fight honours.

The two old rivals – with Keates winning three to Paddock's two in amateur bouts between the pair – clashed as professionals for the first time at Walsall Football Club.

at Walsall Football Club.

An engrossing and keenly-contested 10-round contest saw Bloxwich's Paddock relinquish the crown by a point. Best Newcomer went to unbeaten prospect Craig Morris, from Ludlow, ahead of stylish Brummie Cori Gibbs and Leicester's power puncher Lyon Woodstock.

The Best Supporting Boxer category is re-



Winners at the British Boxing Board of Control's Midlands Area awards

served for the 'road warriors,' the journeymen who travel up and down the country often taking fights at short notice.

It went to Worcestershire super flyweight Brett Fidoe, who won one by TKO in 2015. Puncher Elvis Dube, from Derby, and Newark's 'Fonz' Alexander Anderson were also considered.

### Honour

The Boxer From the Past accolade went to Blox-wich's Andy Peach and for Services to Boxing – a Hall of Fame and Lifetime Achievement honour – went to Errol Johnson, trainer at Wednesbury Boxing Acad-

Erroi Jonnson, trainer at wednesbury Roxing Academy and promoter of Black Country Boxing.

Halesowen super middleweight Lennox Clarke has been added to Black Country Boxing's 'Cool Hand & The Gang'.

The undefeated boxer takes on Swindon's Kelvin

Young over six rounds on the Walsall Town Hall show, sponsored by Grosvenor Casino Walsall, on Saturday, March 19.

Walsall super lightweight, Luke 'Cool Hand' Paddock, takes on Derbyshire's Lee Connelly in a six

dock, takes on Derbyshire's Lee Connelly in a six round contest at the top of the bill whilst fellow Wal-sall fighter Martin Gethin makes a welcome return to the Town Hall against 'Fonz' Alexander. Also in action are Midlands Area Super Welter-weight Champion Jason Welborn, the Bowater broth-ers Sid and Des, West Bromwich middleweight Tom Stokes and two debutants who have made the switch from kick boxing, including Wolverhampton's former world featherweight champion Kyle Williams.

Tickets are £30 (general admission) and £60 (VIP Ringside) on 0845 111 2900 or directly from any boxon on the bill. The weigh-in and aftershow take place at Grosvenor Casino Walsall, Bentley Mill Way, Walsall.

# Morris glad to be back on track with the Heathens

CRADLEY'S Ashley Morris insists the Heathens was the only club he would return to in the National

League.

Morris had an impressive 2015

Wing's Lynn in the

League.
Morris had an impressive 2015 season with King's Lynn in the Elite League and Ipswich at Premier League level.
But he hasn't been retained at that level which left the National League as his only option to stay on track – and he's ready to take up the challenge.

Morris is desperate to repay the Heathens management for giving him another opportunity and admits it's a big year ahead.

"I wasn't picked for a Premier League or an Elite League spot which I was a little bit disappointed about, but to be back with the Heathens is great," he said.

"The National League was an option put to me in the end and if I was going to drop back down then it would have only ever been to rejoin Cradley, It's a club I know will build my confidence back up."

"I'll just go out there, give it everything I've got and hopefully I'll be scoring double figures in a many meetings as I can."

If I be scoring adulte ingures in as many meetings as I can.
"I want to give something back to the one club that's always stuck by me and got me to where I am today."

today."

Morris will be launching the new 2016 ISC official teamwear at the club's official 'Printworx' club shop, Market Square, Cradley Heath between noon and 2pm on Saturday, March 12.

The Motor Market-sponsored side have also been invited to be a part of Wolverhampton's press and practice on March 22. Gates open at 6.30pm with a £1 donation

open at 6.30pm with a £1 donation to be made to a local charity.

# DT's Knight on charge with a debut double

Team Dudley 5 Penncroft 1
NEW signing Chris Knight struck
twice as Team Dudley battered lowly Penncroft 5-1 in West Midlands
Division One.
Penncroft almost went in front
after five minutes when TD keeper
Josh Davies pushed James Moore's
shot on to the crossbar

shot on to the crossbar.

But it was the home side who took the lead after 18 minutes when Matt Simmons was felled in the box and Knight sent Ben Czerepaninec the

Amgin sent ben Czerepannec the wrong way from the spot. Joshua Gardner's header after 37 minutes brought an equaliser, but TD regained the lead before the break through Simmons.

Skipper James Hawthorne's headed home 10 minutes into the second half, Knight finished from six yards and Nathan Jones wrapped it

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# **Pupils serve up** badminton success

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Sam has rivals on ropes to win award Page 39



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# Broadhurst edges it for Glassboys

Stourbridge 1 Darlington 0 STOURBRIDGE improved their Evo-Stik Premier promotion prospects with a deserved win over dogged play-off rivals

deserved win over dogged play-off rivals Darlington.

The Glassboys had to survive a severe defensive examination courtesy of Darlington's route one approach. The Quakers had bombarded Stourbridge's defence with an aerial assault from the

It fell to long-serving Leon Broadhurst who finally secured the winning outcome on the hour, lashing home a low, long-range shot inside the foot of the post to spark jubiliant scenes of celebration.

Sutton Coldfield 2 Stourbridge 3

Sutton Coldrield 2 Stourbridge 3 A GOAL in each half from striker Karl Hawley helped steer Stourbridge to a 3-2 victory at Sutton Coldfield and lift them back into the Evo-Stik Premier play-off places. Chris Lait was also on target for the Glassboys. Aaron Forde shot the home side in

the Glassboys.
Aaron Forde shot the home side in front. But Hawley drilled in an equaliser on the stroke of half-time.
Hawley fed Lait on 57 minutes and then added his second for a 3-1 lead.
A delightful Ryan Edmunds free-kick pulled one back.
Twenty five years since the Glassboys won the Southern League Midland Division in 1991, Stourbridge FC club president Hugh Clark is looking reunite the title winning side when Stourbridge host Whitby Town at Amblecote on Saturday April 16.
He has already spoken to some of the players concerned, but is currently trying to make contact with Dave Morbey, Kevin Collins, Peter Gocan, Simon Russon and Andy Hodgetts.
Mr Clark said: "There are some players that I haven't been able to trace so far, so if anyone has knowledge of their whereabouts, call 01384 392975."

## Yeltz draw on their spirit as Sweeney goal earns a point

Buxton 1 Halesowen Town 1 HALESOWEN put in a spirited performance to earn their first away point in three games against a team they played only days before – and with the same outcome.

The Yeltz started well and applied

The Yeltz started well and applied early pressure to the home defence, forcing six corners in the opening 20 minutes. Aaron Griffiths went close when he was sent clear by Jay Denny, but Myles Wright saved his shot.

Buxton took the lead though in the 33rd minute through a nice header by George Grayson who also started the move

But three minutes later Halesowen

But three minutes later Halesowen were level when a shot by Dan Sweeney found its way past Wright and into the net for a deserved equaliser.

Buxton made the running early in the second half, Djeny Bembo-Leta shooting over from six yards and with two minutes to go the same player put Ash Worsfold away but he couldn't get a shot in.

On the counter attack, Halesowen went down the other end but saw a shot saved by Wright with his legs.

# Runners join cream of cross country crop

FOR the majority of athletes from Dudley Kingswinford, Saturday marked the end of a busy cross country season with their final run round muddy fields at the National Cross Country Championships at Donington Park.

With the cream of the cross country crop heading for the Leicestershire venue this was like a cup final for the blue hoops and an opportunity to rub shoulders with international athletes.

The course was designed to benefit runners and spectators alike with multiple laps of testing, undulating and muddy fields with the ladies setting off over an 8k distance 40 minutes ahead

**DK Running Club** 

of the men who covered 12k. With the first four finishers to count in the ladies team standings Lynn Sprague was first home for DK in 453rd in 44.15, Carol Fisher placed 541st in 46.48, Hannah McGuire finished in 47.14 to take 547th place and Sarah Cox 583rd in 48.29 to place the club 75th verall out of 84.

In the Senior Men's race the blue hoops lined up in the same starting pen as defending cham-pion Charlie Hulson from Sale Harriers. Ben Foster was first back in 300th place in

50.26, Stuart Perkins had a fantastic run to place 625th in 55.26, James Wright was 686th in 56.12 despite carrying an injury, Simon Hughes was 814th in 57.45, holding off a fast finishing Dave Norman in 818th in 57.47 with Daren Thompson completing the A team scorers in 59.15.

The men's team finished 61st out of 123 teams. Twenty four hours later there were plenty of hoops on show for the Action Heart 5. Among them were Darran Bishop, first back in 22nd in 31.39, Sergej Ljubovnikov, 45th in 35.20, Darren Marklew 70th in 37.09, Roger Beddard 71st in 37.10, John Andrews 83rd in 37.44 Tom Cobb 122nd in 40.22 and Rory Campbell 159th in 42.10.

# Oldswinford's Friel is left to carry burden

Pedmore (81-2) lost to Hagley (82-1) by 5 wickets WHAT might have been a hard-fought battle for the title between two unbeat-en sides was almost gifted to Hagley as Pedmore found themselves a man short. Openers Dave Skelding and Matt Por-ter found the exing touch as Hagley kent

Pedmore found themselves a man short.
Openers Dave Skelding and Matt Porter found the going tough as Hagley kept the batsmen in check.
Pedmore lost their first wicket at 18.
Paul Taylor, in at number three, tried to add impetus to the innings but found it hard against persistent line and length.
John Herdman played some pleasing shots but instead of using the angles and side walls, attempted with rare success to hit the back wall. Taylor retired on 26 and the Pedmore innings closed on 81.
Joe Lennon found his timing out but partner Stead (27no) was finding the going easier. Pedmore had their only victim with the score at 27 but then found Paul Morgan in no mood to hang around. He and John McDonnell chased the runs down with three overs to go.
Cookley (105-1) beat Oldswinford (98) by 7 runs
OLDSWINFORD'S bowlers were on top early on with Cookley scoring just 18 off three overs. Todd Henderson found his range and started to accelerate.
John Stanaway joined him at the fall of the first wicket at 29. On Henderson's retirement, New Zealander K Morrkey joined his captain, and retired before Stanaway eventually did – with a ball to go.
In reply, Oldswinford lost Harry Sta-

In reply, Oldswinford lost Harry Sta-nier to the first ball. Matt Watts joined opener Dan Friel, but a run out cost Old-

opener Dan Friet, but a run out cost out-swinford their second wicket at 36. Friel carried the burden as three run outs left him last man standing. He failed to take advantage of John Stana-way's friendlier bowling and was run out for 40.

# JP |

Stourbridge Lions 32 Kidderminster 23 STOURBRIDGE Lions reached

the final of the RFU Intermediate Cup (Midlands) after a thrilling but bruising encounter

thrilling but bruising encounter with local rivals Kidderminster. The Lions handed Kidderminster a dream start by knocking on from the kick off and losing the scrum, followed by poor tackling which allowed Kidderminster winger Arthur Morgan to score with less than two minutes on the clock. Within a few minutes the Lions equalised with a textbook short line out to hooker Scott Langdon who wrong-footed the Kidderminster defenders and crossed the whitewash. Langdon was on hand to score again on the 15 minute mark when

ers and crossed the whitewash. Langdon was on hand to score again on the 15 minute mark when he pounced on a loose ball over the try line following a hashed Kidderminster line out. Centre Sam Wilson converted to put the Lions in front. Stourbridge began to give too many penalties away and were penalised in front of their own posts, leaving Kiddy fly half Freddie Morgan with an easy three points. Both sides then swapped penalties with Sam Wilson again converting. A fine piece of back play just before half time saw winger George Tildsley race down the wing, draw his man and then off load for scrum half Ben Tilbetts to score under the posts, again con-

Ben Tibbetts to score under the posts, again con-

Ben Tipbetts to score under the posts, again converted by Wilson.

The referee had grown tired of the Stourbridge infringements and waved a yellow card at Langdon in the first minute of the second half. Kidderminster used the numerical advantage and following a line out trundled the ball over the line

tonowing a line out trunded the bail over the line via number 8 Layton Wilkinson, again converted by fly half Morgan.

Young Ben Tibbets pounced on a loose ball for an unconverted try. With 10 minutes left, Langdon found himself on the wrong side of the ball and several sets of Kidderminster studs. The and several sets of Kidderminster studs. The referee spotted the 'afters' which earned him a straight card and an early bath. From the penalty Kidderminster found touch five metres out, their line out worked well and number 8 Wilkinson again crashed over. The Lions sealed victory with a George Tildesley try.

with a George Tildesley try.
They will now meet either Wolverhampton or
Barkers Butts on Easter Saturday (March 26).
This Saturday, the Lions are back in league action with the visit of Wolverhampton.

Stourbridge hooker Scott Langford crashes over for this first of his two tries

## Triathletes get season off to great start

BLACK Country Triathletes

BLACK Country Triathletes Junior section got their season off to a great start with the first race of the club series, cross country at Himley Park.

The children ran between 1200m and 3000m through the park, depending on their age category, and were racing to gain points in the annual club

1, for nine and 10-year-olds was Rosie Briscoe for the girls and Owen Ulfig for the boys. The girls' Tristar 2, for ages 11 and

series which includes aquathlon, duathlon and triathlon races.

First in the Tristar Start category, for ages seven and eight, was Ella Harris; in the Tristar The Tristar The next race will see BCT at the serging of the receipting the series of the series of the receipting the series of the series of

athletes against other local juniors in an aquathlon, swimming and running on March 12 at Wombourne Leisure Centre.

# **Cricketer Tufnell to** have guests in spin

FORMER England cricketer Phil Tufnell is the star attraction at a Dudley hotel next month.

tel next month.

The Question of Sport captain will entertain with 'An Evening With . . . 'at the Copthorne Hotel, Level Street, Brierley Hill, on Thursday, April 16 from 7.45pm.

BBC Radio WM's Paul Franks will come from Gary Marshall.

Dress code is lounge suits and a three-course meal will be served. There will also be a charity raffle and auction.

Individual tickets are £55, while tables of eight or 10 cost £50 per head.

To book tickets, call 01902 244220.

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